

# THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 58, Vol. III.

Saturday, February 6, 1864.

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6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1864.

### CONTENTS.

LEADING ARTICLE:—	
PARLIAMENT AND THE MUSES . . . . .	159
REVIEWS:— CURRENT LITERATURE.	
Forsyth's Life of Cicero . . . . .	160
Horeb and Jerusalem . . . . .	161
Morals in Melbourne . . . . .	162
A New-England Preacher . . . . .	163
Mr. Denman on Wines . . . . .	164
An Illustrated Bible . . . . .	165
Mr. Goschen on the Theory of Exchanges . . . . .	166
NOTICES:—"Les Tristesses Humaines,"—"Eran, das Land zwischen dem Indus und Tigris."—Dublin Lectures.—Agricultural Education.—Advice to Young Naval Officers.—The Platform Sayings, &c., of Dr. Guthrie.—The Young Child's Atlas, &c.—Magazines and Serials . . . . .	
PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK . . . . .	167
MISCELLANEA . . . . .	169
SCIENCE.	
PROFESSOR FRANKLAND ON THE GLACIAL EPOCH . . . . .	171
SCIENTIFIC NOTES . . . . .	172
SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE:—On the Formation of Lakes: Professor Beete Jukes.—On the Secular Cooling of the Earth: O. F. and Mr. E. Blyth.—On the Comet: Messrs. H. Rombert and J. C. Watson . . . . .	
PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN ACADEMIES . . . . .	174
REPORTS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES . . . . .	175
MEETINGS OF NEXT WEEK . . . . .	178
ART.	
THE DECORATION OF ST. PAUL'S . . . . .	178
MUSIC.	
THE MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS . . . . .	179
MUSICAL NOTES . . . . .	179
THE DRAMA.	
"THE SILVER LINING," "UNLIMITED CONFIDENCE," &c. . . . .	180

### PARLIAMENT AND THE MUSES.

"CEDAT toga armis." Parliament has met, and for a while the Muses of Science, Art, and Literature must give room to the Muses (if there are such beings, and, if there are, what rough hags they must be!) of Home and Foreign Politics. Give room, we say; for it is to be hoped that, though the session of Parliament has begun, the minds of the lieges will, as in former sessions, not be altogether occupied with the debates, but will have a leisure hour or two every evening, and the Saturday evenings entire, for the calmer and deeper pleasures which Literature, Art, and Science provide for them. The morning papers, indeed, will now fill their columns with reports of the proceedings and the speeches in both Houses, and will curtail the proportions of their other matter, and utterly abolish their fascinating reviews of books, in order to make space for the due representation of our senatorial eloquence and the transactions which it precipitates and envelopes. The incidents of Parliament will also, for six months, afford topics for curiosity at breakfast-time, and for chat after dinner, to that great British constituency in whose name Parliament exists, whose wishes it professes to execute, and who could at any moment tear it to pieces and scatter it to the winds if they chose. But, mercifully, there is a limit, at most times, to the interest which the average public feels in politics. They like that Parliament should meet; they keep an eye upon it; they drop in, as it were, now and then, to see that all is as it should be; if anything very wrong occurs, they do get into a proper state of excitement, and put on the behaviour of an offended master. But, on the whole, they let things take their course, and allow their servants to have full liberty. Moreover, in the present state of our politics, there are a larger number of persons in the community than ever who are, politically, in the position of the Bat in Æsop's fable when the battle was going on between the Birds and the Beasts. The Bat took no side—did not know which side to take; for he could not, after the most conscientious examination of his own anatomy, determine whether he was a Bird or a Beast. So he hung neutral, and looked on, and got

little credit from either party. Now there have been times in the world's history when those who played the part of the Bat were blackguards or poor creatures. But this can hardly be said with respect to Britain at present. The Bats are in the majority; Britain is fast becoming one cloud of Bats. In one central spot of the nation the battle between the Birds and the Beasts, or the Beasts and the Birds—we give the alternative arrangement, because we mean the Whigs and Tories, and we do not wish to give an opinion which is which—in one central spot of the nation, called St. Stephen's, this old battle still goes on; but, somehow or other, it has come to pass that a much larger proportion of the nation than ever before find themselves, as respects this struggle, in the predicament of Bats—in other words, are unable, after the most minute inspection of their own organizations from snout to tail, to determine whether they are Tories or Whigs, according to the meanings given to these names by the combatants. This immense increase of the Bats among us is a fact of the age, of which not only the philosopher, but St. Stephen's itself, would do well to take cognisance. What if the Bat-organization is that higher type of being to which the intelligence of Britain is tending? What if the old antagonism between Whiggism and Toryism has become, or is fast becoming, a mere local tradition of St. Stephen's and Downing Street? What if it should be proclaimed by many that, before they can be interested vitally in what is going on in Parliament—before they can feel a prompting in their nature to take sides in relation to what is going on there—the questions that occupy Parliament must be of a new order? Whether the proclamation will ever be made we do not know; but there are facts, patent to all shrewd observers, that already proclaim something of the sort. Are the usual questions in Parliament those about which our most able, our most fervid, nay, our most combative and practical minds, out of Parliament, really care? Has Mr. Dickens, we should like to know, ever thought it worth his while to give his vote at a Parliamentary election? Is Mr. Tennyson a Whig or a Tory, in the Parliamentary sense? Has Mr. Carlyle registered himself, so as to be able to exercise the suffrage? These are, perhaps, impudent questions; but they are important. They suggest what a number of Bats there are among us, and among what high, nay, supreme classes of our citizens the Bat-organization is most common. Is it that the region of Parliamentary action is properly, in the nature of things, at this time of day, a very narrow and very definite one, for the proper transaction of the business of which the attention of such minds is not needed, so that they are free for far more general work of intellect, fancy, and speculation? Or is it, on the other hand, that politics are not what politics might be, and that, by some extraordinary torpor in the central organ of the nation, it has come to seize only questions that affect but very slightly the most forward and energetic and philanthropic hearts of the three kingdoms?

But there do come periods when all are roused. When Syracuse was besieged, even Archimedes, the most abstract mind in the town, had to leave his darling problems of mathematics and pure dynamics, and trudge to the walls to give his assistance in inventing and applying cranes and catapults. There are times when the calm and beautiful Muses of pure Science, pure Art, and pure Literature have to slink into retirement for a season and leave the field entire for the more hag-like Muses of the Newspaper Press, and Pamphleteering on the present crisis, and vehement Parliamentary Politics. The publishers know this. They know how public excitement tells on the book-trade—how any universal agitation of the national mind by any great question of interest injures the sales of all kinds of literature not bearing on that question, but evokes a compensating pamphlet-lit-

ature of its own, and so leaves its mark on the book-statistics of the year. America might at this moment teach us some lessons on this subject. American publishers' circulars, indeed, report that Literature in the Federal States is unusually flourishing in the midst of the war; but our belief is that, though the number of publications issued during this war-time in America may not have fallen below the average, an examination of the bulk issued in respect of the kinds of which it is composed would exhibit some strange results of the action of Mars let loose amid the Muses.

Well, is this session of the British Parliament to be a jog-trot session, during which there will be but the ordinary amount of interest among the great British constituency in the proceedings of their Parliamentary servants, and this constituency will only look in now and then, and skim in a casual manner the reports brought it daily at breakfast-time, while the immensely numerous Bats will hover overhead, examining their own organizations, and unable, for the life of them, to feel any interest in the proceedings whatever? Who can tell? In home-politics, certainly—unless Mr. Bright imports within St. Stephen's some of those questions of a profounder politics than ordinary which he has been ventilating on the platform, or unless there should be some such phase of the question of National Education as Mr. Matthew Arnold has this very week been striving to bring into the public gaze—there is no appearance of any likelihood of an unusual disturbance of the jog-trot. The *outs* will, of course, struggle to be the *ins*, and the *ins* will struggle to keep where they are; and there may, for obvious reasons, be an unusual energy in this particular session in the conduct of that conflict—some vigorous openings of batteries on the one side, and some resolute sorties on the other. For the rest, however, in home-politics, the omens are not very tumultuous. But in foreign politics? Ah! there! At this moment, not to speak of questions through which we have so far passed, but out of which we have not yet so completely sailed but that we may find ourselves again involved in their shoals and difficulties—the great American question, and the Russo-Polish question—at this moment, not to speak of those, is not the Schleswig-Holstein question occupying all minds? The political irritability of the world in our generation seems endless. Here, there, and everywhere it breaks out; everywhere there is an apparent dissatisfaction with the existing system of equilibrium, and a heaving, with violent throes, towards a new one. No sooner has a disturbance in one part of the earth lasted so long that we have got accustomed to it than, lo! in another part of the earth, and among a different race or set of races, a new disturbance presents itself. This time it is a quarrel between the two great divisions of that Gothic race to which we ourselves mainly belong—the Germans and the Scandinavians. The ground of the quarrel is, indeed a small one as measured on the map; but the passions and the tendencies involved are of such vastly larger bounds that, if the quarrel is not yet avowedly a contest between Germanism and Scandinavianism, with a view to settle their relative positions and values in the European body-politic, it is fast tending to such a definition of itself. Now, it is only necessary to think of the quarrel in this light to see how momentous may be its issues, and how it may cause vibration through all Europe. If the war could be left to be fought out to the last by the two parties immediately concerned, well and good; but, should the other nations cease to be mere spectators, and take to alliances, what can these alliances be but adhesions to either the Scandinavian or the German side of the struggle? If ever there was a wish which it was the duty of the whole British nation to entertain unanimously and resolutely, it is the wish that, by no means and on no account whatever, should we be drawn practically into this terrible contest which has begun almost



at our doors. But who can calculate events? We are interested sentimentally in the war; for is not the seat of the war that tract of Continental territory from which our Anglo-Saxon ancestors came, and have we not now certain fond dynastic ties with Denmark? The part taken diplomatically by our government has hitherto been, on the whole, in the Scandinavian interest; and the Germans, perceiving this, are beginning to cherish hatred against us, and to indulge, through their press, in diatribes against British arrogance and selfishness, compared with which the old French squibs about the "perfidiousness" of Albion were feeble and innocent. Our government, it now appears, in their anxiety to arrange a peace, had actually become surety for the Danes, and taken on their own shoulders the whole responsibility of seeing certain conditions fulfilled. Well, all this, and the Schleswig war generally, will be business for our Parliament. Should we become involved, then certainly we shall enter on a period when the Muses of Art, Science, and Literature will be scared into corners by the turmoil, and sterner and uglier powers will possess the field. But, even if it should be as all ought to wish and pray and determine that it shall be, and our part should continue to be that of spectators, still our thoughts will turn eastward to the struggle going on so near us, and one of the effects will be the development and duration for some time among us of a special literature of the Schleswig-Holstein war.

## CURRENT LITERATURE.

## FORSYTH'S LIFE OF CICERO.

*Life of Marcus Tullius Cicero.* By William Forsyth, M.A., Q.C. In Two Vols. (Murray.)

OUR notions of the ancient world, even when correct, are very seldom complete. They resemble the engravings or photographs of St. Mark's at Venice. The outline may be justly given, but the gorgeous colours and the luminous atmosphere, which make the fabric seem a live thing, are wanting. Mr. Forsyth feels this very strongly; and the chief object of the agreeable books in which, as he says, "he finds a relaxation from the toils of his profession" is to turn, as it were, the conception of antiquity in our minds from an engraving into a painting. The whole mass of minute facts about usages and manners—which the ancient historians omit, because they were likely to be already familiar to their contemporary readers, but which we want and miss now that two thousand years have passed away—he collects and works into the picture. This being his design, the life of Cicero has naturally suggested itself as a subject. Cicero is, in one sense, the only immortal man among the ancients. Homer, Plato, Sophocles, live in their works, but Cicero's personality is preserved for us. His letters display the singularly sensitive, transparent, interesting, and more lovable than admirable character of the man, almost as completely as Boswell's biography exhibits the firmer lineaments of Johnson's. This personal immortality may not be very enviable. Better, perhaps, to live at Stratford and leave nothing behind you but some thirty good plays, than to be "well-known to Agrippa's portico and stared at on the Appian Way," and bequeath to all the ages a minute record of every peccadillo you ever committed and every mean or spiteful thought that ever entered your mind. But, though not enviable to the man himself, this personal immortality makes Cicero exceedingly important to the student of history. Our respect for him certainly is not increased by learning that he begged a historian of the time, as a personal favour, to exaggerate his merits, and that he once opened his brother's letters, which had been put into his hands to be forwarded to their destination, and then contrived to get possession of his brother's seal, in order to hide what he had done. But these facts are precious to the historical student, because they throw light on a very obscure and interesting subject—the moral

tone of Roman society, the difference between the gentlemen of ancient Rome and of modern times. And, to any one who is curious on this subject, Cicero acquires a pre-eminent importance, because almost all we know about it is made known through or in connexion with him.

Mr. Forsyth has, therefore, rightly judged that the life of Cicero might be written with advantage, and not the less so because it has more than once been written before. Middleton, besides the blind partiality for Cicero which was peculiar to himself, and the want of comprehension of Roman politics which was common to him with his age, has depended upon documents which are now generally pronounced to be spurious. Mr. Forsyth will not supersede Abeken, but it was easy to produce a more popular book. Many will be interested in this biography who would be repelled by "Cicero in seinen Briefen," even in the English translation, which was superintended by Mr. Merivale. It may be added that Mr. Forsyth is a well-informed and elegant scholar, and that a good deal of general information about antiquity is conveyed in an agreeable style in the course of his narrative. The student of Cicero's letters is often bewildered by the mass of them, and his confusion may easily become worse confounded if he consults the explanatory notes of some conscientious editors who insert Manutius's interpretations at full length, accompanied by equally prolix refutations of them by Gronovius or Ernesti, and impartial arbitrations between the contending authorities by themselves. Such students will find a very useful guide through the labyrinth in Mr. Forsyth, and we should say that his volumes deserve to be in some request among students.

The book, however, bears the marks of having been written in hours of leisure. It is not the product of sustained and concentrated exertion. We find in it such information as can be gathered from the classics without wearisome research, and such a narrative of Cicero's career as can be written by a good scholar who enjoys his works, and is, at the same time, a lawyer. More cannot be said; and, not only is the work not exhaustive, but, in the capital matter—the character of Cicero—we must consider it a failure. If it is better than Middleton, it is not free from his faults.

To understand Cicero, it is, before all things, necessary to understand the age in which he lived. It is not easy to understand any revolutionary time; but we are certain to misconceive the leading politicians of any such time if we do not rightly apprehend its exceptional conditions and requirements. The fall of the Roman republic has been deeply studied of late, and, we think, any one may now form a correct notion of it who will master Mr. Merivale's intelligent narrative, or, still more, that briefer, but, strange to say, clearer one in which Mommsen has exhibited a power of condensation and arrangement positively marvellous. Now we cannot consider that Mr. Forsyth has properly mastered the politics of this time; and, by saying this, we do not merely mean that his view of it differs from ours, but that he has no view of it, or, at least, a view inconsistent with itself. For example, on the capital question, the position and aims of Cæsar, we find Mr. Forsyth inconsistent. It is impossible, we take it, to condemn Cæsar's subversion of the republican government if three things are granted:—(1) that that republican government was intolerably bad; (2) that to reform it was impossible; (3) that Cæsar had a better chance than any one else of establishing a stable government. We imagine that no one now holds that a government which has irretrievably lost the power of fulfilling any of the ends for which civil government exists continues even then to be sacred. Now Mr. Forsyth quotes, and appears to adopt in its full extent, Niebuhr's assertion that the anarchy of Rome under the expiring republican government was beyond all parallel or conception. It would, indeed, have been even worse, but for a fact

which, we think, Mr. Forsyth overlooks—that imperialism was already practically established in the triumvirate, and was already in some measure controlling the hurly-burly. Does Mr. Forsyth think that the republic might have been cured of its disease? We cannot assert that he does not, but we cannot imagine that he does. There never was such a hopeless case in this world. Pompey was made sole consul expressly in order to accomplish some reform; but, besides that his very appointment was a practical abrogation of the republic, his failure was ludicrous. Had any man a better right to initiate a new state of things than Cæsar? Certainly not, since Pompey perhaps could not—certainly would not—undertake to do it. It seems then to follow that Cæsar's subversion of the republic, if not in its circumstances, yet in its principle, was justifiable. But, if so, why does Mr. Forsyth perpetually speak of Cæsar's "guilty ambition," and of "his nefarious plot against the liberties of his country"? Can he mean by it merely that, though the act was justifiable, the motive may probably have been corrupt? If he merely mean to say that Cæsar's conduct, as one article expresses it, "had the nature of sin," we do not care to controvert the proposition, but that it is equally true of Cicero's suppression of the Catilinarian conspiracy—which is not generally considered a great crime—that this act, like the other, was actuated quite as much by the passion for glory as by patriotism, we know on the best authority—that of Cicero's own speeches.

But there is a further justification of Cæsar which Mr. Forsyth overlooks; it is this—that he did not really subvert the republic at all, but only the triumvirate. The republic was not overthrown at the battle of Pharsalia; it perished long before at the passing of the Gabinian and Manilian laws. By those acts the people put deliberately into the hands of Pompey a power almost unlimited—a power which every one expected, and which there was every reason to expect, he would use against the constitution; and they did so, not in a desperate emergency, but to relieve them of evils which might have been removed without any such extreme measure. Never did a people more deliberately invite a master. It is true that Pompey did not use his power at once, so as absolutely to overthrow the constitution. Those who think he was restrained by patriotism should explain why, five or six years later, he joined the triumvirate. But the precedent had been made. The people had declared for imperialism. And never again, except during Pompey's absence in the East, was the Roman people free. As soon as the triumvirate was established, the constitution fell into utter abeyance. After that it was no longer a question whether Rome should be constitutionally or despotically governed; the only question was who should be the despot.

As to the character of Pompey, it is no doubt singular—some may find it perplexing. As a politician his plan was never to do anything at all; and hence some argue that he certainly did nothing wrong and probably meant to do right. For our part, if we thought Cæsar the traitor that Cicero thought him, we should still prefer him to Pompey. What could be more mean than the position of incapable tyrant that he filled for twelve years at Rome? He sat umpire like the old Anarch, "who by decision more embroiled the fray by which he ruled;" and the intrusion of a "star-bright shape," even if it came from hell, was welcome. The character is not, perhaps, a common one; still it has appeared more than once, and has even been described by a great poet, whose phrases now naturally occur. "He lived without infamy and without praise. He was neither on the side of right nor of wrong, but of himself. Mercy and Justice alike disdain him. He should not be spoken of, but glanced at and passed by."

But, if the Manilian law had such an effect as we have described, what shall we say of



Cicero, who supported it with his eloquence? Cicero, who clung blindly to the republican cause, and at last sacrificed his life to it, is yet prominent among those who sanctioned the first and irretrievable establishment of imperialism. And here a remark of Mr. Forsyth strikes us. He says, "We must not look for perfect consistency in Cicero." This may frankly be conceded; but, on the other hand, it is worth discussion whether we are not to look for perfect inconsistency in Cicero—whether he was not one of the most inconsistent politicians that ever lived. To what principle or opinion was he ever constant? He proposed to coalesce with Catiline in his canvass for the consulship, and either defended or intended to defend him against a charge of provincial extortion which he was himself persuaded was well-founded. Those who know the splendid virtues which Cicero commonly attributes to his clients, and his lavish imputation of criminality to the opposite litigants, may conceive what a counterpart to the Verrine and Catilinarian orations we have lost by the accident which prevented the defence either from being written or from descending to posterity. Instead of that generous sympathy with the provincials which appears in the speeches against Verres we should have insults upon them as contemptuous as in the "Pro Fonteio" we actually read upon the "trousered Gauls" (trousers being always a mark of barbarism in antiquity), and for the monster of wickedness who is depicted in the Catilinarian orations we should contemplate an edifying picture of suffering virtue. After Catiline two other men figure in the orations of Cicero as monsters of wickedness—Gabinus and Vatinius. Yet both of these men were publicly defended and praised by the same ready tongue at the bidding of their great patrons the triumvirs, who, if the orator had made any show of consistency, ought to have been even more hateful to him than their insignificant instruments. In short, it may be said of Cicero that, whereas his political credit depends, first, upon his support of the republican government against tyranny, next upon the protection he rendered to the provincials against the rapacity of the Roman governors, and lastly upon his exposure of certain unprincipled politicians, he yet deliberately helped to destroy the republican government by supporting the Manilian law and by truckling to the triumvirs, deliberately betrayed the provincials by defending Fonteius and Antonius, and the *publicani* in the matter of the province of Asia; and he either gave or showed himself ready to give the solemn tribute of his public approbation and praise to almost every one of the traitors that his own eloquence had exposed.

From these flagrant and repeated political inconsistencies two deductions may be drawn—the one concerning Cicero's contemporaries, the other concerning himself. The first is one which probably every biographer of Cicero would admit, yet which scarcely any biographer sufficiently remembers. It is this—and Mr. Forsyth has, we think, several times suffered it to escape his recollection—that no statement contained in Cicero's orations ought to weigh against any of his contemporaries whom it was at the time his interest to calumniate. We ought never to forget that Cicero allowed his tongue a licence in this matter perfectly unbounded. When he reviles a Gabinus in language to which no Irishman would now descend, we ought to remember that in another speech he praised him in probably not less extravagant language; and, when he makes circumstantial and detailed charges, we ought always to carry with us the following instructive passage from the "De Oratore" (Book ii., chap. 59):—"There are two kinds of wit, one of which deals in *facts*, the other in words. It deals in facts when you tell a *little story*, as, for example . . . You see how neat, how refined, how proper to the orator, is this kind of wit, whether you have a true story to tell, in which case, however, it must be 'dashed and brewed with lies' (*quod tamen est menda-*

*ciunculis aspergendum*), or whether you *invent* it." When we see that this was his theory of rhetoric, we may fancy what his practice would be, when we remember his eager and passionate spirit, and the terrible tongue which neither well-wishers nor ill-wishers, nor prosperity, nor adversity could ever constrain to soberness or sense, to common honesty or common decency. This tongue was, indeed, "so among his members that it set on fire the whole course of nature."

But what is to be our inference with respect to his own character? We cannot help thinking that a biographer should have addressed himself mainly to this question, and, placing all the ugly facts distinctly before the reader, should have enabled him to judge how much was to be attributed to the spirit of the age and the low moral tone of the society in which Cicero lived, how much to the infirmities of his own natural temperament, and what estimate is to be formed of his character when all is considered together. Mr. Forsyth has somewhat disappointed us in this matter; we find only halting apologies where the narrative brings the meaner side of the character into the foreground, and a disposition to overlook them altogether wherever judgment is passed on the character as a whole. It is an amiable fault; and we are happy to admit that Mr. Forsyth seldom absolutely blinds himself to his hero's faults, though he makes great haste to forget them. It is more amiable than Mommsen's contemptuous estimate of Cicero, which is a painful blemish on his brilliant narrative. Still Mommsen is probably so far right that Cicero had never any great political influence, and his extravagance, though more offensive than Mr. Forsyth's, shows greater insight into the time.

That true character of Cicero, which we think Mr. Forsyth has wanted firmness and sternness to draw, we cannot attempt even to sketch in this slight review. We feel an infinite kindness for the man, and are disposed to throw upon his age and training the chief blame of that utter want of consistency and political principle which we think it vain to deny. He had a certain desire—not, we think, a very absorbing one—to promote his country's good; and in this respect he was better than most of his contemporaries; but there was no cause so sacred to him that he could steadfastly prefer it to his own "*dignitas*," and few people have ever uttered so many falsehoods. But to assign to the time and to the man what was due to each would, no doubt, be an arduous task. If we think Mr. Forsyth has not done it successfully, we willingly admit that to succeed was no easy matter. In quitting the subject we must add that we think Mr. Forsyth, in common with most other writers, much overrates the strength of patriotic feeling among the Romans. When he speaks of their private affections being merged in an absorbing passion for their country, when he explains Cicero's grief in exile by asserting that the "love of country was a passion with the ancients to a degree which it is now difficult to realize," we cannot follow him. Cicero was beggared and disgraced; he depended very much on the opinion of others, and his countrymen had punished him for the very deed for which he flattered himself that they idolized him. He had, besides, lost the "*theatrum ingeni*." Does Mr. Forsyth suppose that Ovid was inspired by patriotic regrets when he exclaimed—

"O quater, O quoties, non est numerare beatus  
Non interdicta cui licet Urbe frui?"

Nay, he was thinking of the Circus, the game at ball in the Campus, and incomparable facilities for cultivating the *ars amandi*. We think it may be boldly affirmed that the last years of the republic showed a most scandalous collapse of public virtue. A nation in which patriotism is a universal and intense passion does not succumb to a despotism like that of the Cæsars.

In conclusion, we will allude to a passage in one of Cicero's letters which somewhat unaccountably perplexes Mr. Forsyth. It is

the commencement of the letter in which Cicero's intention of defending Catiline is mentioned, and it is a passage of some importance towards settling the date of the transaction. It runs as follows: "L. Julio Cæsare, C. Marcio Figulo Coss. filiolo me auctum scito, salva Terentia." Upon this Mr. Forsyth remarks, that, when the prosecution of Catiline took place, in B.C. 65, Cæsar and Figulus were not consuls, but had just been elected to the consulship for the ensuing year. We must therefore, he says, either suppose another prosecution of Catiline to have taken place in B.C. 64, or that Cicero, in an unprecedented manner, puts the consuls elect for the actual consuls. To this last supposition, very sensibly, though with great hesitation, he cannot help inclining on the whole, but he is quite unable to explain why Cicero should call two men consuls when they were not. He does not reflect that, if Cæsar and Figulus had really been consuls in the ordinary sense of the word, Cicero would certainly not have mentioned the fact, for Atticus must have known it as well as himself. Atticus might desire to know on what day the child was born, but not in what year. But, as he was absent from Rome, he was probably anxious to hear the result of the elections. Cicero, with a little exceedingly natural epistolary facetiousness, conveys the two items of information together, and lets his friend know by this mock-solemn form—first that Cæsar and Figulus are the new consuls, and secondly that he himself has got a little boy. If the solution were hard to discover it might be found in Schütz's note. S.

#### HOREB AND JERUSALEM.

*Horeb and Jerusalem.* By the Rev. George Sandie. (Edinburgh: Edmonston and Douglas.)

THE lithographed illustrations which the author of this volume has procured, in order to set forth his theories with greater effect, suggest, whatever be their merits as specimens of art, a somewhat unfavourable estimate of the worth of the work itself. The introductory remarks, in which he recounts the formation of the plan of his Eastern tour, are, to the reader who seeks for substantial information, scarcely more encouraging. Nor do we, in the course of the volume, fail to discover that the writer has occasionally wandered out of his depth; as when, on the strength of a supposed similarity of names, he identifies the Israelite stations Dophkah, Alush, and Rephidim with Wady Dughadeh, Jebel Ala, and Wady Rudhwan, evidently quite unconscious of any etymological difficulties to be urged against this view. Nevertheless, as we proceed, we find the book more worthy of an attentive perusal than we had been led, at the first, to expect. The author, although his style reminds us occasionally too much of the heads of a sermon, writes throughout with ease and intelligence; and, if he has nought that can be called altogether new to communicate, still a careful study of the themes of which he treats has enabled him to strike out here and there some thoughts and views that well deserve consideration.

In its opening portions the book presents itself as a record of personal travel: as it advances, it takes more the form of a series of essays on certain questions of topography, and on their bearing on some of the leading portions of the Biblical history. The personal narrative might, we are bound to say, have been, without loss, omitted altogether. We have not traced in it any addition whatever to the stock of information already contained in other well-known books. The author's route was simply the well-trodden route to Sinai, whence he returned to Egypt, and then proceeded by sea to Jaffa in order to reach Jerusalem. That so many of our countrymen should become familiar with the East by personal inspection is a matter for rejoicing; but the same story does not need to be presented in mere outline, again and again, year by year, to the public, except it be in a form in which the information already obtained is likely to be more widely diffused. In com-



paring the scenes which he visited with the records of the Biblical narrative, the author shows more tact. Thus he discusses the route by which the Israelites proceeded from the Encampment by the Red Sea to Sinai; and here he well observes that, if they proceeded (by what Dean Stanley calls the middle route) by the Wady Shellâl, it is difficult to understand how they escaped utter privation of water during the first stages of the journey. For we do not read of their murmuring for want of water till they reached Rephidim; there, for the first time, their complaint burst forth; whereas, along the route in question, we should have expected them to have lacked water during the first days of the march, and, on the other hand, to have found abundance on reaching the Wady Feirân. Of the inscriptions on the rocks of the desert our author remarks that the circumstance of their not being found on the mountain Jebel Mûsa, which has been quoted as telling against its being the actual Sinai, would rather seem to be an argument in its favour. The ancient inhabitants of the desert would, he implies, abstain, through a feeling of natural reverence, from writing on the sides of that mountain which they regarded as specially holy. In regard of the question as to whether the cliff Râs Safsafeh, immediately overhanging the plain Er-Râhah, or the higher backward peak of Jebel Mûsa, not visible from that plain, is to be regarded as the true mountain of the Law, Mr. Sandie urges, with much reason, that part of the sacred honour may belong to each. It was from the precipitous eminence in front that the Law would most readily be proclaimed to the people assembled in the plain below: it would be on the higher and more distant summit that Moses would present himself before God, "in the top of the mount." This distinction so obviously suggests itself that it is remarkable that there should be anything novel about it; yet we believe that preceding writers have been generally unwilling to draw it, though they have freely enlarged, some on the adaptation of the one height, some on that of the other, to the requirements of the sacred narrative. But it is a further question whether Mr. Sandie be right in assigning to the northern cliff the name Horeb, and to the southern peak the name Sinai. He urges more particularly that Horeb is specified in the Bible as the scene of the covenant between God and the people, and that in this covenant the Decalogue alone was included; while Sinai is connected exclusively with the ceremonial law. The train of thought thus suggested is somewhat fancifully pursued. "The Commandments of Sinai have passed away; the Covenant of Horeb endures, and ever will." "From Sinai Jehovah spoke as the King of Israel; from Horeb he spoke as the Lawgiver of the universe." Of the passages quoted from the Pentateuch, some yield a *prima facie* support to Mr. Sandie's view. But we do not see how he would get over the difficulty that the streaming forth of the waters from "the rock in Horeb" is recorded as taking place while the Israelites were apparently yet at Rephidim—one stage of their journey before they arrived in the desert of Sinai, and "there camped before the mount," the very mount to which the name Horeb is assigned by our author.

In the discussions on the topography of Jerusalem, the task to which Mr. Sandie applies himself with most earnestness is that of showing that a deep valley ran in former times immediately to the north and north-east of the Temple, between it and the present Dome of the Rock. Traces of the débouchure of such a valley into the Valley of the Kedron were first pointed out by the late Dr. Schultz. The arguments for the existence of such a valley, drawn from Josephus and the First Book of Maccabees, are fully and, for the most part, forcibly stated, and dwelt upon. The Great Rock itself seems to have formed, in Mr. Sandie's view, the summit of one of the cliffs on the northern side of the valley. We do not find, however, that in proof of this valley he has added aught from personal inspection, or from the results of modern explo-

ration, to what was originally advanced by Dr. Schultz. He furthermore, adopting the distinction drawn by Mr. Lewin between the Kedron ravine and the "so-called Kedron ravine" in the writings of Josephus, applies the latter name to the valley for the existence of which he contends. Mr. Lewin had understood it of the ground immediately to the east of the Temple, but within the city-wall, sloping town towards the Kedron itself. Without committing ourselves to either view, we cannot but deem Mr. Lewin's the more probable of the two. An illustration will explain our reason. Every one knows that, where France has succeeded in extending her frontier to the Rhine, there exist two departments on which the names Haut-Rhin and Bas-Rhin have been bestowed. The appropriation of the name of the stream to the adjacent district is natural enough; but would it have been natural to give the same name to any other stream flowing eastward into the river whereby France is bounded?

The reader will gather from the above the general character of Mr. Sandie's book. As we have named it in conjunction with Mr. Lewin's, which we noticed a few weeks back, we will say plainly that, while displaying an earnest-minded and painstaking study of Scripture, it is much inferior to Mr. Lewin's in the amount of information which it conveys. Even in the discussions to which the author devotes himself there is little that can be called absolutely new; and what he has to say might perhaps have been presented in a less ambitious form. If, however, our author cannot lay claim to much novelty of origination, he has at any rate the merit, in one well-known controversy, of the novelty of embracing the unpopular side. He is a convert—an avowed and unreserved convert—to Mr. Fergusson's theory that the Great Mosque at Jerusalem is the Church of the Resurrection, built by Constantine, and that beneath the rock which it protects lies the true Holy Sepulchre. To the enforcement and illustration of this theory the last three chapters of his book are given up. It will scarcely be supposed that, in the main, he has much of importance to add to what has already been urged by the ingenious writer whom he follows. The tone of his mind forms, however, a complete contrast to that of Mr. Fergusson, and the arguments of the latter are set forward at length with considerably more care and maturity of thought than was ever bestowed upon them by their originator: they are also supplemented by a long array of evidence drawn from the indications of the Scripture narrative, which the author claims to be in his favour. It is no part of our present duty to enter here any record of our own convictions on the subject, or to explain why the world generally has hitherto remained deaf to all Mr. Fergusson's blandishments. That gentleman always deemed the strength of his case to lie in his architectural arguments, which, he would contend, have never been satisfactorily answered. They have, however, been of late assailed by Count de Vogüé, and are likely, if we mistake not, to be yet more seriously encountered by Dr. Pierotti. It will certainly be curious if, while competent chiefs are, after so many years, beleaguering the fortress which Mr. Fergusson always reckoned so peculiarly his own, his cause, hitherto unsuccessful, should now at last gain its first victories, and the revolutionary theory from which the admirers of his ingenuity have stood aloof should at length be advocated, with tardy earnestness, by clerical travellers and students to the north of the Tweed.

#### MORALS IN MELBOURNE.

*Ella Norman; or, a Woman's Perils.* By Elizabeth A. Murray. In Three Volumes. (Hurst and Blackett.)

THIS is a bill of indictment, in the form of a three-volume novel, against the present Societies for promoting the Emigration of Women to the Colonies in general, and against Mrs. Chisholm (evidently) and her system of "group ships" in particular. The

Societies get this sort of rebuff two or three times over:—

"There are some of the most influential women in England—and, I firmly believe, the most well-intentioned—who are leagued in all these Colonization and Emigration Societies; and the effect of what they have worked out has been, that they have actually decoyed and sent out more unfortunate and innocent girls to irretrievable ruin than any similar number of the most depraved women in England could possibly have destroyed. It is a hard fact for them to digest, but the statistics of this colony will show its truth; and I shall tell them a piece of my mind some day, or I am very much mistaken in myself."

"God will reward you!" ejaculated Francis from the bottom of his heart.

And, just after, the "frail and foolish" clergyman's daughter, who has been ruined and has turned drunkard in the colony—was there ever a victim who was not a clergyman's daughter?—is called "a victim to the folly of these very good and well-meaning ladies, in their turn the victims of some crafty speculator or designing impostor."

Now these are plain words, and are confirmed by the whole drift of the book. They are not to be got out of by any general saying in the Preface that, "in discussing social and political questions," the opinions given are those of others, not the authoress's own. And, unless Miss or Mrs. Elizabeth A. Murray produces far other evidence than she has given in her novel, and gives us some account of what means she has had of judging of the female emigration question, we must hold that she has written a book with much mischief in it. Judging the book on its own internal evidence, it seems the production of an exaggerating lady—Scotch, to judge from the *will for shall*—with many right feelings, but with a somewhat ludicrously high estimate of the value of refinement and deportment. With regard to the latter, we are almost forced to sympathize with Kristy when she mutters,—

"Rubbish. Turn back, then, if you are a lady. I ain't yet, and don't mean to be either, when such humbug as that is called ladylike—such stuff."

—which answer is given in reply to this remonstrance on the Bush girls' riding on to see their drag—

"I don't think it will be *proper* for you to do this, my dears. There are generally diggers hanging about; and it is not ladylike."

With regard to the former quality of exaggeration, what can we say when our own friends, English public-school and University men, and men of honour, have risen to be Attorney-Generals and otherwise high in office and social position in the Colony, and when we find this position broadly laid down at the close of the book?—

To the genuine rogue, the sharper, the man who cannot hold up his head in respectable society at home, here is his field for triumph. Keep out of the clutches of the law, and he is all right. Among the multitude of expirés from the other side who have managed to enrich themselves and become "gentlemen," he will find a fellow-feeling wondrous kind; they will ask no questions—there will be a helping hand extended to him at every turn. Among the freemasonry of crime he will get on, and perhaps succeed to such an extent as to make further exercise of his gifts no longer necessary or expedient. He may then become churchwarden, or elder, or trustee, or something about a church, and die in the odour of religion, and be buried with an extensive funeral; but there is a class . . . the poor gentleman of birth, the retired officer, or the man who has spent all he had, or lost it, or has in any way come down from a certain position in society, where he has been trained to the refinements of life, the nicer feelings, in the subtle element which, among the initiated, is understood and felt, but which cannot be defined in words, as the atmosphere of the gentleman. Let this class shun Victoria as a certain grave for them, morally and physically. . . . No, poor gentlemen! keep out of Victoria. . . . You must come down from your cherished pedestal of honour and integrity, and so forth, and lose your own identity, your self-respect, your best characteristics, before you can compete with men who cannot understand your feelings, or lump them as "bosh."



6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

In short, according to E. A. Murray, no man but a low Irishman and a rascal has any chance of success, while well-educated young ladies will most probably be ruined and become drunkards. Surely all this is beyond the limits of "legitimate exaggeration," and must make the book defeat its own purpose. Doubtless it is true that the encouragers of female emigration have not taken all the care they might have done in fitting with a careful protector every young woman made self-relianceless by absurd education in England. But it is neither just nor wise in an objector to admit the truth of the terrible statistics that there are more than four men to one woman in the Colony, to admit that the Melbourne ladies do all that they can for emigrant girls with their Emigrants' Home, and then to turn round and pour wholesale abuse on the people trying to lessen the disproportion between males and females, because some of the effects of such disproportion are felt during its diminution. Moreover, this abuse is given without the proposal of any one practical measure as a remedy; and we are asked to believe that England, with its surplus female population, is a safer place for a girl than Victoria, where husbands are "plenty as blackberries," and where, if one channel of employment for a girl is closed, a dozen others are open.

Good servant-maids, of course, are not to be had. When your wife expects visitors she has to open her own drawing-room and "oh, dear! dust it." What an awful state things must be in! As bad as the army in the Crimea. "Privations! my dear," did we hear Lady Blank say, "frightful! why Augustus hasn't had a toothbrush for three weeks!" Well, one of the maids steps out, and her mistress screws up her courage to speak to her.

When Jane burst in (confident of what was coming, and determined not to be rebuked) —

"Oh! if you please, I have been waiting to speak to you, ma'am, all the morning. Mr. Townshend will have to do without me altogether. I am not going to demane meself in service any more. Me quarter's up next week, and from to-day is a wake's warning."

"Why, Jane, I do not think a respectable service any degradation! You would not be more comfortable anywhere than here; and though, remember, I do not ask you to stop if you do not like, yet, for your own sake, if you are not going to a place, what are you going to do?"

"That is no business of anybody's; but, as I have no fault to find with you or Mr. Townshend, and you have been very civil to me, it makes no odds to tell you. I am going to better me condition! Me young man says that in a year or two I can be as good a lady as any in the land, and have me cawriage too, if I have a mind to. He's got the contrac' for the railway—at least something with his mate and him, in his trade, carpentering or something, I don't rightly know. He took me to the boxes to see the 'Hungarian Brothers' last night, and he's got the beautifullest watch you ever seen! Mr. Townshend's nothing to it; and he giv me this (showing a massive gold ring); so I told him to spake to the praste; and as you had been civil to me I wouldn't leave at once; but you must suit yourself by Thursday. I am going to Melbourne to-day to order me dresses; would it be convenient to give me some money—and can I do anything for you?"

Agnes sat petrified.

No doubt such a speech would be trying to the mind of a well-regulated English lady, who is brought up in the belief that every one should "know her place;" but who that knows how some servants are "spoken to" and treated here, can regret that some others win the return match elsewhere, or that Jane is afterwards met in her "cawriage" with her energetic young man? With more women in Victoria and fewer in England, the *juste milieu* might be attained in both places. We do trust that not one woman less will be sent out to the Colony for all the complaints in this novel. Let more care be taken in selecting female emigrants and looking after them, if it so may be; but the true remedy for all the mischief is to send out twice as many marriageable girls as we do now.

We must not, however, let our objections to Miss Murray's moral render us unjust to the goodness of her story. The fall of the victim, and her rescue by an old friend who is a governess in a Bush family, supply the pathetic element; the exposure of colonial vulgarities and the ridicule of parvenu pretensions supply the piquant element; while the uncustomary surroundings of scenery, habitations, manners, and people, give a freshness to the book that renders it one of the most interesting novels we have read through for a long time. The McLarens are admirably hit off. Our English prejudices are well flattered by the continuously-implied statement that the only home of honour, intelligence, and refinement is "the tight little island," which has a House of Lords—that dwelling of superior beings whom John Bull adores and loves. But we live in hope that some inferior "colonial" will write us another novel "Amyrra's Aims," and tell us what he thinks of the set whom the authoress of "Ella Norman" considers the salt of Victoria and Melbourne.

#### A NEW-ENGLAND PURITAN PREACHER.

*Autobiography, Correspondence, &c., of Lyman Beecher, D.D.* Edited by his Son, Charles Beecher. In Two Volumes. Volume I. (Sampson Low & Co.)

DR. BEECHER was the father of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mr. Henry Ward Beecher; and though he was a well-known preacher in his own country, his name has spread more widely than it otherwise was likely to have done, through the greater fame of his children. And this is a curious family book, in which all who are interested in any member of the Beecher family will find something to attract them, and which offers a number of minute American *idylls* to the study of the English reader.

The children of Dr. Beecher are sufficiently impressed with the importance of every scrap of written matter relating to their father's early life or the internal affairs of his household. The reader of this book must be prepared to meet with some very trivial correspondence, and he may be disposed to think that the publishers have presumed too much on the interest felt by the public in the Beechers, in sending out one volume by itself, and bidding us wait for the other. But we are willing to be thankful for the close acquaintance we are enabled to make with the whole life of a New-England Puritan minister of the last generation. The life is idyllic in its rustic simplicity and homeliness; but it is penetrated also by the sternly tragic element of a terrible Calvinistic theology.

Dr. Beecher was the son of a blacksmith of New Haven, Connecticut, of whom it is recorded that he was a very well-informed and intelligent man, and married five wives. He was bred, like Theodore Parker, in rustic industry, and grew up strong and hearty, with "a settled fear of God and terror of the day of judgment." He was sent to Yale College, of which, before he left it, Dr. Dwight became President,—the great Dr. Dwight, of the complete system of Divinity. Young Beecher entered with ardour into Dwight's teaching, and left college a stout Calvinistic Puritan. He married early, and settled as a minister at East Hampton in Long Island, where he had a sturdy struggle with poverty and with a somewhat ungracious flock. Here is an anecdote of the East Hampton days.—Dr. Beecher is speaking, in his old age. The "Life" is constructed in this way. Dr. Beecher, surrounded by his children, tells the story of his life, they occasionally interposing questions.

"Your mother introduced the first carpet. Uncle Lot gave me some money, and I had an itch to spend it. Went to a vendue, and bought a bale of cotton. She spun it, and had it woven; then she laid it down, sized it, and painted it in oils, with a border all around it, and bunches of roses and other flowers over the centre. She sent to

New York for her colours, and ground and mixed them herself. The carpet was nailed down on the garret floor, and she used to go up there and paint." H. B. S. "That carpet is one of the first things I remember, with its pretty border." C. "It lasted till my day, and covered the last bed-room in our Litchfield home." H. B. S. "Well, father, what did East Hampton folks say to that?" "Oh, they thought it fine. Old Deacon Tallmadge came to see me. He stopped at the parlour door, and seemed afraid to come in. 'Walk in, deacon, walk in,' said I. 'Why, I can't,' said he, 'thout steppin' on't.' Then, after surveying it awhile in admiration, 'D'ye think ye can have all that, and heaven too?'"

There was no pulling down of the corners of the mouth about Mr. Beecher. He was full of life and gaiety, much more of a sportsman than of a student, "valuing himself more," says Mrs. Stowe, "on climbing a chestnut-tree that grew slant-wise over a precipice than even upon his best sermons." He threw the same energy into controversy. What brought him first before the public was a fiery sermon against duelling, occasioned by the duel between Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton. He followed up this sermon by proposing, in synod, that societies should be formed for the suppression of duelling. Some opposition was made to his resolution, and Dr. Beecher thus describes what followed:—

The opposition came up like a squall, sudden and furious, and there was I, the thunder and lightning right in my face; but I did not back out. When my turn came, I rose and knocked away their arguments and made them ludicrous. Never made an argument so short, strong, and pointed in my life. I shall never forget it. . . . Oh, I declare! if I did not switch 'em, and scorch 'em, and stamp on 'em! It swept all before it. Dr. — made no reply. It was the centre of old fogysm, but I mowed it down and carried the vote of the house.

In this hearty style he set to work to preach revivals. At East Hampton he was not very successful, and when he left his people there, upon their refusing to raise his stipend, he bade them farewell in the following agreeable language:—

I have proclaimed abundantly, and proved by Scripture argument your entire depravity . . . ; and now I leave you still in arms against God—still in the gall of bitterness—still in the kingdom of darkness, and with the melancholy apprehension that all my labours for your good will prove only a savour of death. Once more, then, I proclaim to you all your guilt and ruin.

At Litchfield, the next scene of his labours, his appeals met with a readier response. There is something extremely odd, and savouring of irreverence, if it were not for the entire simplicity and sincerity of the language, in the way Dr. Beecher talks about "my revivals." He regards them as a proud manufacturer would regard a highly creditable piece of work. An admiring friend, speaking in a similar vein, says, "I pursue your mode of talking; it succeeds admirably. Awakened persons obtain hope very soon, and they come out bright and solid." And like a good man of business, he thought it only fair that he should be paid for his work. At Litchfield he fell at one time into pecuniary embarrassments.

When my people found out how the matter stood, they came up nobly, and raised 3000 dollars, and gave me two years' salary. I had been four years on the stretch in revival preaching. Twice there had been a revival in Miss Pierce's school. I had six preaching places out in the neighbourhood which were visited with revivals. The influence of this made but one voice. Even old Dr. —, who was so economical that he boasted of having kept all his accounts for thirty years with one quill pen, and said he had thought so closely upon the subject of economy that he knew exactly how to lean his arm on the table so as not to take the nap off, and how to set down his foot with the least possible wear to the sole of the shoe—even he said, "There's nothing like it. He's determined we shall all be saved."

The difficulty of reconciling Dr. Beecher's joyous heartiness with his religious doctrines becomes greatest when we learn how he felt towards his children. He was particularly



# THE READER.

6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

happy in his family, and, to outward appearance, had good reason to be so. But what a terrible passage is this, written when his children were growing up to be men and women:—

While I am as successful as most ministers in bringing the sons and daughters of others unto Christ, my heart sinks within me at the thought that every one of my own dear children are without God in the world, and without Christ, and without hope. I have no child prepared to die; and, however cheering their prospects for time may be, how can I but weep in secret places when I realize that their whole eternal existence is every moment liable to become an existence of unchangeable sinfulness and woe.

The latter part of this volume contains a correspondence between Dr. Beecher and his eldest daughter Catharine, in which the father was held by admiring religionists to have acquitted himself to admiration, but in which all the reader's sympathies will be on the side of the daughter, whose sweetest and truest instincts were so cruelly racked and torn by a detestable theological system. But perhaps Dr. Beecher, after all, deserves the most pity; for he was too good and affectionate a man not to be sorely wounded himself by the supposed necessity of inflicting torture for her good on one of the best of daughters. It is enough to make one's heart bleed to read these letters of Catharine—so gentle and submissive in their hopeless agony. Take the following extracts:—

But I am most unhappy in the view which this doctrine presents of my own state and that of my fellow-creatures, except the few who are redeemed from the curse. When I look at little Isabella, it seems a pity that she ever was born, and that it would be a mercy if she was taken away. I feel as Job did, that I could curse the day in which I was born. I wonder that Christians who realize the worth of an immortal soul should be willing to give life to immortal minds, to be placed in such a dreadful world. . . . I see that my feelings are at open war with the doctrines of grace. I don't know that I ever felt enmity to God, or doubted of His justice and mercy, for I can more easily doubt the truth of these doctrines than the rectitude of God. . . . I feel that my case is almost a desperate one, for the use of the means of grace have a directly contrary effect on my mind from others. The more I struggle the less guilty I feel; yet I dare not give them up. . . . Thus my hours are passing away as the smoke, and my days as a tale that is told. I lie down in sorrow and awake in heaviness, and go mourning all the day long. There is no help beneath the sun, and whether God will ever grant His aid He only knows.

There is a very beautiful letter written by Catharine on New Year's Day 1823, in which she expresses her determination to cherish the comfort and encouragement which the Saviour's words in the Bible appeared to her to hold out to a humble and desponding sinner.

"It was under the influence of such considerations that of several Sabbaths since I heard one of Dr. Emmons's *harsh* sermons. Among his inferences was this—"which we have not the patience to quote. Catharine adds:—"Oh, my dear father, it seemed to me then that, before them all, I could have knelt to the blessed Saviour, who was present and heard those words, to bless and thank Him that He was not so hard a master, but that He had left behind Him so many gracious words of kindness and encouragement to all the wretched and guilty who would come to Him for strength to do His will."

But this truly Christian soul was yet "unregenerate" and in danger of being fixed in a state of "unchangeable sinfulness," and it was necessary to press upon her the Calvinistic metaphysics about ability and inability, and "the distinction between natural and moral inability which is made by theologians, and which," as she protested, "I believe most of them *teach* more than they *feel*." We are not told in this volume how the struggle ended. This correspondence is followed, probably on some artistic plan of relieving the reader's feelings, by a pretty chapter of Mrs. Stowe upon her "early remembrances." It is satisfactory, however, to find the following passage in a subsequent letter ad-

ressed by Dr. Beecher to his children collectively:—

As to your difficulties, my opinion is that you will escape better by cultivating devout affections, and a spirit of implicit confidence in God, than by pushing the point of speculation farther at present. After all that can be explained, there is occasion, through the limitation of our views, and the bias and blindness of our hearts, to receive the kingdom of God as a little child, simply upon the evidence of "Thus saith the Lord."

The divine covers his retreat as well as he can; but we cannot help hoping that the children had taught the father more than they had ever learnt from him.

## MR. DENMAN ON WINES.

*The Vine and Its Fruit.* By James L. Denman. (Longman & Co.)

THERE is no reason on earth why a wine-grower or a wine merchant should not write a treatise on wine either from love of the subject, knowledge of it, or *lucris causa*. Barristers write treatises on "Contingent Remainders" and "Executory Devises," on "Vendors and Purchasers," and on "Executors and Administrators;" and physicians and surgeons write treatises on "Gout and Rheumatism," on "Aneurisms of the Aorta," and the "Morbus Brightii"—some of them from a love of science and a love of their species, but more of them from a desire to become famous, or to rise in their respective professions to general employment and European celebrity. Why, therefore, should not a wine-grower or a wine-seller write upon wine? He ought to know more on the subject than a mere layman; and, if he gives us the results of his knowledge and experience, as well as his reading, we should be thankful to him. The men who have chiefly hitherto written upon wine in England have been physicians, such as Barry, Macculloch, and Henderson; and, though the least gifted of the three had possibly more chemical knowledge than Mr. Denman, yet the latter can tell us a great deal that was unknown to any of his predecessors. As to Barry's work, though agreeable and amusing, it was written nearly a century ago, and is now out of date. The author, who was chiefly known in his profession as one of the last adherents of the iatro-mathematical sect, had as antiquated notions in natural philosophy as in medicine, and he brings to bear on his subject, often inaccurately, citations from ancient poets and historians—citations that have too often little to do with wine practically. Henderson dealt with the ancient wines as a scholar and a *dilettante* in modern wines; and Macculloch chiefly concerned himself with the phenomena of fermentation, its management, and the sulphuring, classifying, and medication of wine. A better book than any of these, for practical purposes, was produced by Mr. Redding; but, though the compilation is a useful one, and well enough put together, Mr. Redding, of course, cannot lay claim to that special knowledge of the wine trade possessed by Mr. Denman and by Mr. T. G. Shaw, whose work was recently reviewed in this journal.

The volume now before us is much better written and much more complete in its historical account of wines than Mr. Shaw's work. It excludes a great deal of useless matter not germane to the subject, which Mr. Shaw has incorporated into his volume, and some of which had been better left out.

It is quite true, according to William of Malmesbury, as Mr. Denman states, that, towards the middle of the twelfth century, vineyards existed in Gloucester, Worcester, Hereford, Somerset, Cambridge, and Essex; but it is also certain that, in the 27th Edward III., the first statute of *Præmunire* passed, the four last chapters of which have relation to Gascony wines. The fifth chapter enacts that it shall be felony if any English merchant shall engross or forestall wines in Gascony; nor may he, at any rate, purchase them of a Gascon, by money to be paid in England, if the price exceeds what wine is usually sold for in Gascony. The next chapter

enacts that no English merchant, or person employed by him, should be permitted to go into Gascony, but just before the vintage, and that no Englishman shall even at that time purchase any wines but in the towns of Bayonne or Bordeaux, under the same penalties; which are—*forfeiture of the wine and the other forfeitures consequent on the felony*. If any one infringes these regulations he is to be apprehended by the seneschal of Gascony, or constable of Bordeaux, and sent *in vinculis* to the Tower of London. The extraordinary severity of these provisions, so far as to punishing the offence as a felony, are repealed by the 37th Edward III., c. xvi., but in all other respects the statute is confirmed. Persons residing in Gascony to buy up the wine are by the 37th Edward III., c. xvi., "*cocheours engleys*"—liers in wait. We conclude from the provisions of these statutes, and the number of those "*lying in wait*" for the wines, that the vineyards in England of which Mr. Denman speaks produced little wine likely to rival the French, or to be drinkable by connoisseurs. The statutes we speak of remained in force till the 43rd Edward III., which in the preamble set forth that such severe laws were "*pur assay profitable*." Upon the representation of the Prince of Wales, the Black Prince (whom Edward styles his dearly-beloved son), that the duties which he used to receive from the duchy of Aquitaine were considerably diminished, the Parliament enacted that the two statutes spoken of should remain in suspense. The French chronicles of the time take notice that the Black Prince was in infinite distress during his residence in Gascony from his living upon a too magnificent and expensive establishment, and that the consequence was his laying a most oppressive tax of *fouage* (or hearth-money) upon the Gascons. In the time of Edward III. there can be little doubt, we think, that the greater part of the wine drunk in England was French, though a good deal of home-made wine was also consumed by the smaller gentry, and a vast quantity of ale both by gentry, yeomen, and peasantry.

It is said that we shall never become a wine-drinking people because we are a beer-drinking people. But it is a remarkable fact, not stated by Barry, Henderson, Redding, Shaw, or Denman, that the fairest and most favoured countries on the earth—the countries producing the best wines—have simultaneously used beer. The Council of Aix-la-Chapelle regulated the quantity of wine and beer which should be consumed by both sexes in religious houses. In a rich house, situated in an abundant wine country, each regular canon was daily allowed five pounds' weight of wines, and each *chanoinesse* three. If it were a country not thickly studded with vines the allowance was three pounds of wine with three of beer for the canon, and two of beer and two of wine for the *chanoinesse*. In going through the religious houses in France, even in the finest wine countries, the place where the brewhouse existed is always shown. No doubt, as the number of vineyards increased in France, brewhouses diminished; but there were numerous brewhouses in Paris in 1428. The author of the "*Journal de Paris*," composed under the reign of Charles VI., attributes the increase in beer-drinking to the oppressive taxation under Charles VI.; but the working man, then as now, pays nearly, if not quite, as much for his beer as for his wine. In the memoir furnished to the Duke of Burgundy by the intendants in 1698, the Intendant of Paris states that the misery and distress of the people had diminished the commerce and increased the consumption of beer, so that the brewers had consumed eighty *setiers* of barley (the *setier* was twelve bushels), without counting the corn employed for the white beer. But, as at this period beer in France was made of barley and rye, with meslin vetches and lentils, it could, doubtless, be produced considerably cheaper than any ordinary wine. The workman of Paris, who is well paid, now alternates a much better



beer than that of 1698 with wine; and there is no reason why, in five, ten, or twenty years hence, the English artisan may not do so likewise. Even at present there is a good deal of ordinary French wine drunk in London, Brighton, Southampton, and Dover by artisans and journeymen; and there is no reason why the consumption should not increase.

On the ancient wines Mr. Denman is much more discursive and infinitely more learned (this was not difficult) than Mr. Shaw. The poets of Greece and Rome, from the earliest to the latest, celebrate the praises of wine, and, as though the invention of the liquor were too transcendental to be human, attribute it to the gods Osiris, Saturn, and Bacchus. Plato, while he censures excess in wine, maintains, with more than his usual persuasive power, that nothing more excellent than the juice of the grape was given by God to man. Hippocrates boasts of its curative influences. If wine were poison, neither Cato, Marcus Varro, Columella, nor Pliny would have written so much as they have done on the culture of the vine and wine-making. But none of these great masters advise the adulteration of wine, though they were perfectly aware of the method of forcing wines, and used for the purpose plain and burnt salt, bitter almonds, the white of eggs, and particularly isinglass. Yet the Romans, with all their accomplishments, were but children in the art of doctoring wines, not to say the adulteration of them, compared with the Greeks. Palladius gives several receipts which were used by the Greeks for improving the flavour, colour, and strength of their wines, and likewise to give to new the quality of old wine. In one of these a mixture of hepatic aloes had a considerable share; and doubtless the late Dr. Marshall Hall, who was fond of exhibiting the drug in a solid and liquid form, would approve of its introduction into the wine-tub. Cato also favours us with a curious receipt for making an artificial Chian with the Falernian by the addition of sea-water taken far from land, and kept for some time in casks. Brydone, in his "Tour in Italy," supposes the modern Monte Barbaro to be the site of the Falernian vineyards. That the wine was durable and a *vin de garde* is plain from Horace, who says he had some by him thirty-three years old.

Mr. Denman doubtless thinks that to him is due the placing *en évidence* African wines. But the Greeks, who knew everything, and who practised 1800 years ago all the commercial tricks now prevalent on the exchanges of London, Paris, and New York, were familiar with the produce of the African and Asiatic wines, of which several enjoyed a high reputation. These Greeks drank their wines diluted. Athenæus mentions a mixture called *πεντε καλ δυο*, which consisted of five parts of pure wine and two of water.

There is a great deal of fashion and caprice in the rise and fall of wines. Gregory of Tours speaks of the wines of Macon, Orleans, Cahors, and Dijon, in three of which localities the wines are good to this day. The reputation of different vintages may be compared to the characters of certain men. To rise above the crowd, real merit alone does not suffice. Sometimes favourable circumstances or a happy chance is needed—oftener sought than found. It may also happen that a vineyard which for a long time had but an indifferent reputation may, by the industry of a new proprietor, by the peculiar process of making the wine, or by a better cultivation of the grape, become more perfect than it had been before. The Burgundy wine of Romanée, so famed during a century and a half (the estate was purchased by the Prince of Conti), owes its celebrity to a Sieur de Cronembourg, a German officer in the service of France, who, having married the heiress of this vineyard, rendered it one of the finest in Burgundy. It is absurd in any man in our day (it has been said by a recent author) to say that claret has only recently become renowned. Claret and Burgundy were renowned five centuries ago. Eustace des

Champs, in his poetical pieces (1420), cites the vines of Gascony, Burgundy, Chablis, Beaune, and Orleans.

In the fifteenth century Burgundy and Champagne disputed the palm among the wines of France. If Burgundy had its Beaune, Champagne had its Aï; and these were among the best wines of France. This last, says Patin (meaning Aï), is the wine that Bauduis called "Vinum Dei" at the house of De Thou. Paumier, in his treatise on wine, written in 1588, says Champagne was the ordinary drink of kings and princes; and it is certain that Leo X., Charles V., Francis I., and Henry VIII. had their vineyards of Champagne. St. Evremont alludes to the circumstance in a letter to the Duc d'Orléans. Burgundy was 280 years ago considered the most cordial and generous, as well as the wholesomest of wines. Erasmus attributed his nephritic pains to the harsh and bitter wines of the Rhine, and took to drinking Burgundy, and nothing but Burgundy. It cured him. "Sic enim subito recreatus est stomachus," says he, "ut mihi viderer renatus in alium hominem."

A hundred and sixty years ago, however, the wines in the neighbourhood of Paris (where there is no good wine grown now) were considered even better than those of Gascony and Burgundy. Of the wine of Surène, near Paris, Chaulieu sings, in 1702:—

"Et l'on m'écrivit qu'à Surène,  
Au cabaret, on a vu  
La Fare et le bon Silène  
Qui, pour en avoir trop bu,  
Retrouvoient la porte à peine  
D'un lieu qu'ils ont tant connu."

The Vin de Grave, now so famous, was indifferently esteemed in Madame de Sévigné's day. She says, speaking of the Bishop of Metz, disparagingly:—"C'est un gros mérite qui ressemble au vin de Grave."

The reputation acquired by the Burgundy was due to an accident. When Louis XIV. fell ill, the physicians advised him the Vin de Nuits to re-establish his health; and hence the reputation which this class of wine has ever since enjoyed, and enjoyed deservedly. It would take a volume to describe the wines of Burgundy—comprising Chambertin, Vougeot, Nuits, Pomard, Volnay, Romanée, Beaune. Chambertin, it is well known, was the favourite wine of Napoleon before he arrived at St. Helena; after that period he drank Bordeaux, probably because he thought Chambertin would have been injured by the sea voyage. Mr. Denman speaks of the danger of transporting Burgundy across the sea; but this, with proper precautions, may be obviated. The writer of these lines has now in his cellar some bottles of Chambertin, Nuits, Beaune, and Pomard, portions of a larger parcel sent to him in 1838; and the wine is still excellent, with great body and bouquet. It travelled from Beaune to Calais, packed and bottled in a double cask coated with gypsum by roulage; and, thus fortified against air and sea, it arrived perfect.

All Burgundy wines should be drunk in moderation, and the advice given by Panard should be scrupulously followed:—

"Se piquer d'être grand buveur  
Est un abus que je déplore:  
Fuyons ce titre peu flatteur;  
C'est un honneur que déshonore,  
Quand on boit trop on s'assoupit,  
Et l'on tombe en délire:  
Buvons pour avoir de l'esprit,  
Et non pour le détruire."

Mr. Denman discourses pleasantly on the French wines, and on none more than Champagne. To our thinking, the best Champagne is in general the least effervescing. Champagne, unlike Burgundy or Claret, is always improved by an hour's icing. Champagne is said to be bad for gouty patients, but in Champagne itself gout is unknown. It is true the natives drink but one wine, and that Champagne; whereas our *gourmets* here drink half-a-dozen different wines at dinner. It is the intermixture of various wines to which the gout should be laid, and not to the Champagne.

The Bordeaux wines are generally divided into Vins de Médoc, des Graves, des Palus, des Côtes, de Terre forte Foins d'entre deux mers; but so much do they differ by taste, colour, bouquet, durability, and a hundred almost imperceptible shades, that it would be difficult to give an exact list. We must refer the reader to the work of Jullien. Among the first growths of red Claret, are Château Lafitte and Margaux; among the second, Mouton; and among the third, Kirwan. The difference which exists, however, between the four or five superior qualities of wine and the wines made by small proprietors, which are sold at from 400 to 500 francs the *tonneau*, results less from the quality of the grape and the nature of the soil than from circumstances incident to the want of capital, and from the desire of obtaining quantity at the expense of quality.

Mr. Denman has chapters on the wines of Portugal, Spain, Germany, and Italy, which are agreeable reading, and carefully compiled. There is in them nothing very new, but the matter is well put together. The novel parts of the book are the chapters on the wines of Austria, Hungary, and the Crimea; on the wines of South Africa; and on the wines of India, China, and Australia. In these there is a great deal of new matter, pleasantly and genially narrated.

It need scarcely be said that connoisseurs in wine in this country will still stick to the older vintages of Spain, France, Portugal, and Germany, and be content with Amontillado, Manzanilla, Port, Madeira, Claret, Champagne, and Hock. Fifty, or a hundred years hence, fine wines may be grown and made in Italy, in Australia, or in Southern Africa; but middle-aged men cannot hope, even if they desired, to see the vintages of France, Spain, Portugal, and Germany surpassed by the wines of Australia, Columbia, or Southern Africa.

#### AN ILLUSTRATED BIBLE.

*The Holy Bible.* Containing the Old and New Testaments, with References, numerous Critical and Explanatory Notes, and a condensed Concordance. Illustrated with more than Nine Hundred highly-finished Engravings. (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.)

IT was not till the latter half of the fourteenth century that the circulation of the Bible in the vernacular, against the decree of Rome, found a champion in John Wycliff, to whom the countenance of John of Gaunt, the powerful Duke of Lancaster, was a safe shield and buckler. Wycliff may truly be called the founder of Teutonic Christianity as opposed to Latin Christianity—of that Christianity which, taking the Bible itself for its basis, makes the reading of the Scriptures an essential part of every Christian's daily life; which doctrine, finding its first echo a few years later, in Bohemia, in John Huss, harbingered the Reformation in Germany and Switzerland under Luther and Zwingle. To England thus belongs the priority of the movement which, some century and a half later, overthrew the power of Rome, and placed the Bible, in every man's own tongue, in the hands of the laity.

There is a peculiar interest in noticing the wonderful accuracy with which the true sense of the original text is given in the three grand versions of the Bible into the languages of the West, which have formed the foundation of almost every other translation of the Bible. The Dean of St. Paul's has truly said that "the Vulgate was even more, perhaps, than the Papal power the foundation of Latin Christianity." "Jerome's Bible," he adds, "almost created a new language. The inflexible Latin became pliant and expansive, naturalizing foreign Eastern imagery, Eastern modes of expression and thought, and Eastern religious notions, most uncongenial to its own genius and character, and retaining much of its own strength, solidity, and majesty. If the Northern, the Teutonic, languages coalesce with greater facility with the Orientalism



# THE READER.

6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

of the Scriptures, it is the triumph of Jerome to have brought the more dissonant Latin into harmony with the Eastern tongues." Jerome's version is the Bible that was rendered into English by Wycliff. Luther's translation is chiefly a close rendering of the Greek Septuagint, the expansiveness of the German language readily enabling the most literal rendering of the one to convey the most definite appreciation of the sense of the original into the other. If Jerome's version into Latin almost created a new language, Luther's gave a fixed character to German. He wrote his language with force and purity, and is still reckoned one of its best models. Miles Coverdale's version of 1535—our first printed English Bible—"out of Douche and Latin into Englyshe," does not follow Luther's translation, but that in the German-Swiss dialect, which was printed, with a preface by Bullinger, at Zürich in 1530, and which, the printer's preface informs us, "has been compared, word for word, with the Hebrew text." Coverdale's and Tyndale's versions of the Bible into English were greatly used in the preparation of Archbishop Cranmer's Bible of 1539—"the translation that is appointed to be read in churches," as stated on the title-page, which was chiefly superintended by Miles Coverdale. "It was wonderful," says Strype, in a passage strongly reminding one of Nehemiah's description of a like scene, "to see with what joy this Book of God was received, not only among the learned and those who were noted lovers of the Reformation, but generally all over England, among all the common people, and with what greediness the Word of God was read, and what resort there was to the places for reading it. Every one that could bought the book, and busily read it, or heard it read; and many elderly persons learnt to read on purpose." In a letter written jointly by Coverdale and Grafton from Paris to the Lord Vicar-General Cromwell, quoted by Todd, they say: "We follow not only a standing text of the Hebrew, with the interpretation of the Chaldee and the Greek, but we set also in a private table the diversity of readings of all texts, with such annotations in another table as shall doubtless dilucidate and clear the same, as well without any singularity of opinions as all checkings and reproofs." We pass by Taverner's translation of the Bible, which appeared at the same time, but must record the great and learned Selden's testimony to the value and accuracy of our present authorized version of the Scriptures, in the preparation of which all the labours of those who had gone before were used with the greatest care and painstaking:—

"The English translation of the Bible," are Selden's words, "is the best translation in the world, and renders the sense of the original best, taking in for the English translation the Bishops' Bible as well as King James's. The translation in King James's time took an excellent way. That part of the Bible was given to him who was most excellent in such a tongue—as the Apocrypha to Andrew Downes—and then they met together, and one read the translation, the rest holding in their hands some Bible, either of the learned tongues, or German, French, Spanish, Italian, &c. If they found any fault, they spoke; if not, he read on."

Ever since the Reformation, when the proclamation of Henry VIII., as quoted by Burnet, stated "that his Majesty was desirous to have his subjects attain the knowledge of God's Word, and that this could not be effected by any means so well as by granting them the free and liberal use of the Bible in the English language," with the exception of the short reign of his daughter Mary, it has ever been one of the chief concerns of the government to provide correct and carefully-printed editions of the Scriptures at prices to suit the means of every grade of the population of these realms. But it is in the reign of our present Queen that, by the encouragement given to private individuals to work in the same field, through the abolition of the paper duties, editions of the Bible carefully edited, as regards notes, concordances, maps,

&c., have been brought to the door of the cottage as well as to the gates of the rich. Of these editions that of which the title heads this article merits a most honourable place. The text is that of the authorized version. The marginal renderings are also, for the most part, copied from the margins of our Church Bible, as are also the marginal references. The foot-notes have apparently been written for the class of readers who would avoid polemical discussion; they illustrate the text mostly by reference to the manners and customs, and the laws and religious observances of the East, and seem to have been culled from the best sources in a very catholic spirit. The Concordance is a carefully-abridged compilation from larger works, and the Chronology prefixed to the Bible is valuable as furnishing dates and references to the passages in which the events are described, so that, at a glance, the different portions of Scripture which belong to one and the same period are brought under the eye of the reader. The illustrations amount to more than nine hundred; and the care bestowed in their selection is no small merit of the publication. They are all executed on wood by competent artists, and are taken from the Old Masters, and from paintings of our own day, from book-illustrations, and from works of natural history, and include views of cities and other localities mentioned in the text, of manners and customs, and of the natural productions of the East. It was a copy of this illustrated Bible that was selected by the Pure Literature Society as an offering to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales on her marriage. It is a family Bible suitable for any household, and yet produced at so small a cost that, taken in in weekly numbers, it is within the reach of all.

## MR. GOSCHEN ON THE THEORY OF EXCHANGES.

*The Theory of Exchanges.* By George S. Goschen, M.P. Second Edition. (Erfingham Wilson.)

HOWEVER interesting to the political economist as an analysis of a series of facts bearing closely upon some of the most abstruse relations of capital and labour, a work upon the theory of exchanges can hardly be expected to gain the attention of the public, or even of mercantile men, who are, as a rule, little versed in the theory of trade, except at a time like the present, when, from the exceptional height of the rate of interest in the market, the questions discussed assume more than ordinary importance.

The foreign exchanges are, to merchants and bankers, a barometer of the state of the money market, the soundness of credit, and of the comparative position of the circulation in different countries; but, as in the case of the barometer, there is necessary much experience and observation of other surrounding facts in order thoroughly to appreciate the meaning of their indications.

The origin and necessity of exchanges are thus clearly stated by the author:—

As the result of international commerce, a certain portion of the community has become indebted to merchants in foreign countries; and, in order to save the trouble, risk, and expense of sending coin, it seeks out another portion of the community to whom a similar amount is owing by the identical foreign countries in question, and, buying up these debts, assigns them over in payment to its own foreign creditors.

The debts take the form of bills of exchange, drawn by the creditor in one country upon his debtor in the other; and, if the aggregate debts owing by any two countries to each other—in other words, if the bills drawn in either country upon the merchants in the other were absolutely equal in amount, and similar in every respect as to the periods of payment and the coin in which they are to be paid—it is easy to see that these bills would exchange freely one for the other at the amounts expressed in them—in the ordinary expression, the exchange would be at par. But, in practice, this rarely occurs; and it mostly happens that the indebtedness of the

merchants in the one country is greater than that in the other—from which arises a greater demand for the fewer bills on the one hand, as the merchants who do not bid high enough for them will have to go to the expense of forwarding gold, if they would punctually fulfil their engagements. The fluctuations, therefore, which take place in the foreign exchanges are at once the result and the index of the inequalities which exist in the indebtedness of different countries. There are, besides, many other circumstances affecting the price of foreign bills—such as the relative values of gold and silver where the countries differ in their medium of circulation, the amount of the current rate interest, which would be lost by waiting for the expiration of the bills, the risk of receiving paper instead of gold—that is, trusting to the acceptor and drawer—the amount of bullion held in either country and the relative position of their paper currency; but these are subordinate to the question of relative indebtedness, which remains the first and most material element.

This national indebtedness arises not only from the debts incurred by the importation of foreign commodities, but from a variety of other transactions, differing according to the nature of the affairs of the two countries. A careful study of a large miscellaneous collection of bills would give much information of the nature of these transactions. The greater number would be found to represent exports of produce; others are bills drawn for travelling expenses; others represent the transfer of capital from one country to another, in the purchase of securities of all kinds; others are bills drawn for freight. Then, again, the amounts vary greatly; those coming from India and China are often of very large amount; many of those from the Continent arise from small retail transactions. Another large proportion of bills represent indirect transactions, such as the payment for teas shipped from China to New York by bills drawn upon London bankers, where the acceptor looks for payment to the importer in New York; and any estimate which is attempted as to the liabilities of a country based upon the bills afloat upon it, and which omits the consideration of these acceptances for third accounts, would be erroneous. The cause for these bills appears to be the never-ceasing exports of England, creating everywhere a demand for bills on London markets, while there are no exports from New York to China; indeed there cannot be an exchange on any place to which remittances have not constantly and regularly to be made; and thus it is that the stream of the London trade draws into it the money transactions of many other trades very remote from this country, making London the clearing-house of the world. Another batch of bills will be found to be what are technically termed bills drawn in blank. These are bills not drawn against any immediate transaction or exportation, but arising from this—that, where the seasons of the imports and exports of a country do not coincide, it is found convenient "that the bankers of one country should draw upon those in the other at the time when no actual commercial bills representing *bond fide* transactions can be bought, and subsequently square the liability which they have incurred towards the acceptors of those bills drawn in blank by buying up or remitting the export bills as soon as the goods have been shipped and are made available for draft. In this way the shipment and re-shipment of gold, which would otherwise be necessary, are avoided, and the transaction is a legitimate one; and, though such bills are sometimes confounded with accommodation bills, or bills intended to raise a fictitious capital during the time they have to run, it is not difficult for those conversant with bills to distinguish them."

The elements of value which determine the fluctuations of foreign bills are next submitted by Mr. Goschen to a scientific analysis. It is pointed out that the fluctuations in bills drawn at sight vary, except under extraordinary circumstances, within the limits on the one hand of the par value plus the cost of



# THE READER.

6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

the transmission of bullion, on the other the par value minus the identical sum; while the fluctuations in long bills are unlimited, because they are co-extensive with the fluctuations in the value of money in the accepting country, and with the apprehensions as to the solvency of the names on the bills. The first of these two affecting causes introduces a series of most difficult questions, which are dealt with so far as necessary to the subject—such as the effect of an over-issue or an unlimited issue of inconvertible paper currency, and of laws prohibiting the dealing in and the export of gold,—which, it is shown, result often in sudden and wild fluctuations in the exchanges of a country, compared to which any fluctuations caused by panic, interest of money, and so forth are trifling. The same questions arise whenever it is necessary to ascertain what is technically called the par value between two countries—a calculation easy enough when they both have a gold currency, but more involved when, side by side with the gold, there is a large paper currency, and almost hopeless where either of the two countries has an unlimited paper currency.

Having thus analysed the nature of the fluctuations of foreign exchanges, Mr. Goschen proceeds by a reverse process to argue back from them to the existence of their determining causes; showing that “they offer to the trading community the means of ascertaining the state of the commercial atmosphere—indicating when the air is charged with a storm or when fair weather is likely to set in—and so clearly point to the disturbing elements, that their study and due comprehension suggest the course by which danger can be avoided, and moderate the precipitate action of panic.” He proceeds to point out how essential it is to remember that fluctuations can arise, not only from one cause, but many, and how liable even experienced men are to mistake the true cause; a notable instance of which occurred early in 1861, when a large efflux of gold took place from Europe to the United States, and when various theories were started as to its origin; but when, not till months after, was it clearly understood that the main cause was the indebtedness arising from the immense imports of corn and cotton. The ordinary terms “favourable” and “unfavourable state of the exchanges” are accurate enough from a monetary point of view; but it is only when the unfavourable state is due to a balance of indebtedness against the country that there is any vicious effect upon the trades of the country. In such case the equilibrium can only be restored either by an increase of exports and diminution of imports, or by an advance in the rate of interest.

We will not follow Mr. Goschen in his lucid explanation of the mode in which relief is afforded by a high rate of interest. It is enough to point out that a high rate of interest is the natural result of a considerable efflux of specie, and that the Bank of England has no longer, in consequence of the competition of other large holders of capital, the power of artificially raising the rate of interest—it follows in the wake of others; the real importance of a variation in the minimum rate of the Bank does not consist in the power exercised over, but in the indications afforded of, the money-market. The question how much the rate of interest must rise in order to check a continued export of gold is of great interest, and never more so than at the present time, when, in consequence of great imports of cotton from the East, and mainly from countries that are slow to take our manufactured goods in return for their raw product, but which seem to have an unceasing appetite for gold, the rate of interest is at a higher point than we believe it has ever been without a panic. The subject thus discussed by Mr. Goschen is closely connected with many others of almost equal importance—such as the expediency of our currency laws, of the Bank Charter, and the effect of gold discoveries upon the depreciation of gold; and the City of London has certainly chosen as its representative one

who has in this work shown himself well able to deal with these and other important commercial questions which are sure, from time to time, to engage the attention of the House of Commons.

## NOTICES.

*Les Tristesses Humaines.* Par l'Auteur des “Horizons Prochains.” (Paris: Michel Lévy frères.)—THERE can be no want of delicacy in naming an author whose name is known to every one. There are probably few persons who have read the “Horizons Prochains,” and “Horizons Célestes” and do not know that they were written by Madame de Gasparin. We do not, therefore, think that we are committing any indiscretion in repeating the fact, although she still chooses to publish anonymously. In the last-named work she endeavoured to comfort those who were suffering from bereavement, and the loss of those they loved. In this she strives to perform the same kind office for those who are suffering from the other ills to which our flesh is heir. She addresses the individuals comprising that “phalanx which advances in the gloom of the twilight, which keeps to solitary footpaths, which is weak, silent, trembling; scarcely does a single star shed its light upon them, and even that ray causes terror; no song goes with them; when we listen, we hear merely the sound of footsteps, sadly slow, as of men who are weary. Whoever would look attentively would distinguish drooping foreheads; in those downcast eyes, tired, as it would seem, of looking, he might catch a furtive tear; something cold and colourless broods over them; at their approach there is solitude, for every one flies for fear of meeting them. They form the cohort of sorrowing souls, and all my heart leaps towards them.” This extract will serve to give those who do not know Madame de Gasparin's former works some slight insight into the peculiarities of her style. It is highly coloured, intensely figurative, and occasionally rises to true eloquence. It would do so more frequently were it not for a certain fragmentariness both in the thought and the expression. We have one serious objection to make, not to the form, but to the substance of the book: the poison is too strong, the antidote too weak. Through page after page we find descriptions of human misery and of the sorrows of life. Small beyond measure is the space allotted to those religious or even purely earthly consolations which the most miserable may command. There is something morbid in thus constantly dwelling on all that men have to render them unhappy, even when it is done for the purpose of turning their thoughts to a brighter world. And, as concerns the thousand troubles of daily life which Madame de Gasparin describes, we cannot but think that the cultivation of a habit of “looking always on the sunny side” would make most of them vanish into very thin air.

*Eran, das Land zwischen dem Indus und Tigris.* By F. Siegel. (Berlin: Dümmler.)—THE learned world, which owes to the author the publication of Windischmann's “Zoroastriische Studien,” owes him another debt of gratitude for the lucid manner in which he sums up, in the work before us, the results achieved already in ancient Persian studies, and, by partly re-opening the question of the mixture of races and nations on Persian soil (in prehistoric and historical times), furthers these studies considerably. Cuneiform writing is as yet only a half-revealed secret. Irrespective of the vagueness in the reading itself in many cases, we have as yet only been able to ascertain that cuneiform characters were used for Arian and Semitic (Assyrian) idioms. What is the third language, denominated Scythic, or Median, or Scytho-Median, supposed to be related to various nearly as unknown idioms? The author goes to the root of the mystery. He describes the condition of the country according to its separate provinces, the state of the nations who inhabited it at different times, adding essays on the Avesta and the Veda, the Avesta and Genesis, on the beginnings of the Median rule, on the Armenian tribes and their inner history, the culture of ancient Eran, on the most recent history of Parseeism, &c., &c. We may on some future occasion return to the book; suffice it at present to have called attention to it as one of the most careful and erudite compendiums on this most obscure province of linguistics and history.

*Lectures delivered before the Dublin Young Men's Christian Association, in connexion with the United Church of England and Ireland, during the Year 1863.* (Dublin: Hodges, Smith, & Co. Pp. 568.)—No more appropriate book than this

collection of lectures could be placed in the hands of a Christian young man. Some of the lectures have a special interest for him—such as the one on “Scepticism,” by the Rev. William C. Magee, and the one on “Dr. Colenso and the Pentateuch,” by the Rev. John Nash Griffin. Others, again, are of a more secular kind, and address him as a citizen—such as the lecture on “Australia,” by Sir Richard Graves Macdonnell—one of the best authorities, by-the-bye, that the Association could possibly have chosen for the subject—and that admirable contribution to British history, “The Life and Death of the Irish Parliament,” by the Right Hon. James Whiteside. This is by far the most important paper of the series, and is well worthy the perusal of all young men. By way of biography we have a lecture by the Right Hon. Joseph Napier, ex-Lord Chancellor, on “William Bedell,”—the Bedell whose life Bishop Burnet has written so unsatisfactorily; and, by way of light reading, we have “Stereoscopic Views of Misunderstood Men,” by the Rev. J. B. Owen, and a somewhat similar theme, “People of whom more might have been made,” from the pen of the Rev. A. K. H. Boyd. Altogether, the volume is a highly satisfactory one.

*Agricultural Education.* (Longman & Co. Pp. 167.)—THIS volume consists of a series of inaugural lectures on chemistry, botany, veterinary surgery, and the requirements of the agriculturist generally. From the examination papers it appears he is required to know many things—chemistry, organic, inorganic, analytical and agricultural; mechanics and hydraulics, and mechanics and hydrostatics; surveying, mensuration, therapeutics, pathology, anatomy, and drawing. The lectures are by the several professors of the College, Cirencester, the only institution in England where education in agriculture is imparted; and all anxious to know the present state of such education will do well to read the volume.

*Words of Advice to Young Naval Officers.* By E. A. Inglefield, F.R.S., Captain Royal Navy, author of “Summer Search for Sir John Franklin,” &c. (Liverpool: Webb and Hunt. Pp. 136.)—THE author of this little volume has been in the service upwards of thirty years, and therefore speaks from experience. The book is dedicated to the Duke of Somerset; and, from the sensible manner in which it is written, and its thorough applicability to the life of the young naval officer in almost all its phases, we have little doubt but that it will become a favourite in the service. Those who have sons or protégés about to join the navy will also find it of great advantage; for in the appendix will be found every information as to outfit, examination, &c.

*The Platform Sayings, Anecdotes, and Stories of Thomas Guthrie, D.D., Minister of Free St. John's Church, Edinburgh.* (Houlston and Wright. Pp. 216.)—“THE contents of this little book,” says the preface, “are the result of the industrious work of one who has been long inspired with a high admiration of the reverend and amiable author. From its small price the work can scarcely be expected to remunerate her; but she may be consoled by the remark of Mr. Carlyle, that every one who gives a book to the public is a benefactor of mankind.” We see the volume has reached a “Second Thousand,” and, from the eagerness with which the religious world listens to the sayings and stories of its favourites, we have no doubt it will reach a third thousand; so that the patient collector will, after all, find her reward.

*The Young Child's Atlas.* Specimen of the Progressive Copy-Books. Scottish School-Book Association. (Glasgow: Collins.)—THE atlas comprises ten maps, with accompanying questions. It is bound and shaped like a school copy-book, is easy for a child to hold, and extremely simple and clear in its arrangements. From the specimen of the Progressive Copy-books for writing sent us, we fancy that we should have to object to the continuance, in some of the small-hand copies, of that angular sort of current hand called “ladies' hand,” which most people would like to see superseded. A round and rather upright, or slightly slanted hand is quicker, neater, and more legible than the very slant “ladies' hand” with sharp corners.

*Ireland and the Irish Church.* By the Rev. William Anderson, M.A., Rector of Raymunterdoney. (Dublin: Hodges, Smith, & Co. Pp. 66.)—THE reverend author regards numerical strength as a test of an Established Church, but not the only test. “In the following pages,” says the preface, “he has endeavoured to point out the circumstances which have made it peculiarly delusive and unjust when relied on as the exclusive test by which to judge of the efficiency of the Irish Church.”



# THE READER.

6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

*Berg- und Gletscher-Reisen in die österreichischen Hochalpen.* Von Dr. A. von Ruthner. (Wien: Gerold.)—ALPINE literature is so much on the increase in Germany that we can no longer keep step with it. The work before us is one of the most valuable of its kind, not only on account of the loving care bestowed upon its composition and the fine engravings with which it is copiously adorned, but chiefly because it opens entirely new tracks, recounts ascensions of virgin peaks, and—this above all—points out things yet to be done by enterprising mountaineers. The book is not a continuous description of an "excelsior" journey, but rather a collection of monographs on the subject, and it is intended to form only the first volume of a larger series, which we shall gladly welcome.

*Carta topografica dei Contorni di Roma.* (Berlin: Schropp.)—THIS map of the Roman Campagna (1: 50,000) will prove a most valuable guide, containing, as it does, every single spot of interest to the traveller—villas, temples, sepulchres, ruins, inns, roads, footpaths, every street of Rome—everything, in short. It is based on Moltke's survey, and competent judges vouch for its minute correctness.

WE have received from Messrs. Trübner & Co. *A New System of Stenography or Shorthand*, on the principles of W. Stolze, by Dr. Gustav Michaelis, with thirty-two lithographed plates. Stolze is to Germany much what Pitman is to England, and Dr. Michaelis regards his system as an improvement on both.—Messrs. Virtue & Co. send *The Vowel System of Shorthand*, invented by J. Rodham Carr, LL.D., Barrister-at-Law. One of the chief advantages of Dr. Carr's system is that it can be "instantly read with ease and pleasure, and without ambiguity." "The work has involved vast research," he tells us, "and its completion has been the fruit of more than twenty years' study and practical experience, during which entire period the author has constantly received invaluable aid from his brother, Mr. Cuthbert Carr."—From Messrs. Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday we have *The Progress and Results of Missions*, in a Letter to the Right Hon. the Earl of Chichester, by the Rev. Archibald Boyd, M.A.; from Mr. Ridgway, *The Farmer's Difficulties: Protection the only Remedy*, by G. Wray of Tunbridge Wells and Rotherfield; and from Mr. Phipps, *Debate in the House of Commons on June 9, 1863, upon Clerical Subscription*, including the speeches of all who took part in the discussion.—There also lie on our table, *Report of the Great Northern Hospital for last year*; *Appendix to Prospectus of Port Canning Estate*, from which we learn that this auxiliary port on the river Muttah will very soon supersede anything in the way of a port on the river Hooghly; and *Two Words on the Burning of Kagosima*, and *Mr. Layard's Explanation*, by T. Binney, reprinted from a report.

## MAGAZINES AND SERIALS.

MR. DICKENS'S graceful and simply-written "In Memoriam" sketch of his friend Mr. Thackeray will be the first paper read by all in the present number of the *Cornhill*. The following little bit is very characteristic of the two novelists in their friendly colloquies about themselves:—"We had our differences of opinion. I thought that he too much feigned a want of earnestness, and that he made a pretence of undervaluing his art, which was not good for the art that he held in trust. But, when we fell upon these topics, it was never very gravely, and I have a lively image of him in my mind, twisting both his hands in his hair, and stamping about, laughing, to make an end of the discussion." All through the article there breathes a fine feeling of affection and respect for the deceased; and the testimony of Mr. Dickens to the merits of the unfinished novel which Thackeray has left, and which is to be published in the *Cornhill*, is interesting and valuable. Mr. Anthony Trollope also contributes a notice of Thackeray, in which allusion is made to his experiences and ways as editor of the *Cornhill*; and there is a poem contrasting the eagerness in 1701 to bury the dead Dryden in Westminster Abbey with the absence of any such demonstration by our dignitaries of Church and State in the case of Thackeray. "Margaret Denzil's History," "Cousin Phillis," and "The Small House at Allington" are continued; and among the general papers is an affectionate sketch of David Gray, a young poet of sanguine hopes, who died recently in very painful circumstances, after a brief stay in London. In *Macmillan* a tribute is paid to Thackeray's memory in a paper of vivid critical recollection

of his early novels and of himself, signed with the initials of Mr. Henry Kingsley,—to which paper some remarks are appended by the editor. "The Hillyars and the Burtons" is continued, as is also the beautiful anonymous story called "A Son of the Soil." The "Competition Wallah" in this number walks over quite a field of *ignes suppositi* in his letter entitled "British Temper towards India, before, during, and since the Mutiny;" and we should not wonder if his powerful expressions of opinion on this subject were to rouse passions in Indian society and among those connected with the Indian government. The Editor continues his papers entitled "Dead men whom I have known," and gives an account, among others, of William Thom, the Inverury Poet; and Mr. Matthew Arnold contributes a very important and weighty article on Middle-Class Education, in which he propounds views that run counter to some fixed opinions on that subject. He utterly scouts the maxim that the State ought to refrain from interference in the business of national education; he contends that it is the business of the State to undertake the work of education, and that by no other agency can the work be efficiently undertaken; and he maintains, in particular, that there is no reason why there should not be all over England an apparatus of good schools, doing for the youth of the middle class, at a moderate expense, what is done in France by the Imperial Lyceums, and yet thoroughly adapted to English needs and habits.

*The Fine Arts Quarterly Review* has reached its third number, and more than maintains the high character with which it started. Whether it is the demand of the time or the public spirit of its editor that has called into existence so gorgeous and so complete a periodical volume we scarcely know; but this fact must be patent to all, that the Fine Arts have at last found a voice to which all will listen. No other country in Europe, we should imagine, could afford to possess such an organ; and it is satisfactory to know that the intrinsic qualities of the *Fine Arts Quarterly* are in keeping with its outward splendour. The folding illustration from the Camirus Vase, discovered in Rhodes a year or two back, is of itself a work of art. It is from the obverse of the vase, and represents a well-known incident in the myth of Peleus and Thetis. The description is from the pen of Mr. C. T. Newton. Mr. Digby Wyatt continues his paper on the "Loan Collection at South Kensington." Mr. W. Lloyd describes, with the aid of engraving, "Raphael's School of Athens," and with much ingenuity and scholarship points out characters we never dreamt of looking for before. Mr. Philip Gilbert Hamerton's "Modern Etching in France" is accompanied by appropriate examples; and thorough art knowledge, with ability to convey it pleasantly to the reader, is as characteristic of this paper as it was of the one on French painting last year. As an Art critic, he is one of the best now writing. Mr. Redgrave concludes in this number "The Early History of the Royal Academy." From M. C. H. we have a most interesting biography of Horace Vernet, and some judicious remarks on his works and manner of composing and painting them. The "Catalogue Raisonné of the pictures in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries at Somerset House," and "Further Additions to the National Gallery," are both by George Scharf; and the editor himself continues his labours on the "Catalogue of the Drawings of Nicholas Poussin in the Royal Collection, Windsor Castle." Mr. Panizzi's question, "Who was Francesco da Bologna?" is elucidated in this number with fac-simile illustrations, and it may now be regarded as satisfactorily answered. W. M. Rossetti's "Fine Arts Record," in which he touches on every Art fact throughout the world worthy of note, concludes the number.

THE second article in the current number of the *North American Review* is devoted to Goldwin Smith's question, "Does the Bible sanction American Slavery?" It is treated at great length, and the writer, we need not add, comes to similar conclusions with the Oxford Professor of History, whose work receives his warmest admiration and praise. From the review of Ticknor's "Life of Prescott" we learn that the historian "was a man of regular and methodical habits," and that "eccentricities of thought and peculiarities of style repelled rather than attracted him. He never, for instance, could read Carlyle with any satisfaction, and the quaint garb of the 'History of the French Revolution' made him insensible to its substantial merits." "The Ambulance System" is treated in a very sensible article, and the paper on the "President's Policy" breathes nothing but confidence in the ultimate establishment of peace

and union, and of "a power and prosperity beyond even the visions of the Fourth of July Orator."

THE continuations in *Blackwood* are "Tony Butler" and the "Chronicles of Carlingford." "Witch-Hampton Hall" is a weird story inculcating in a most effective way the beauty and the efficacy of love. The writer of "Cornelius O'Dowd upon Men and Women, and other Things in General," speaks from a large knowledge of the world, and, although occasionally facetious, is always wise. "A Ride through Sutherland" will rather startle those who rush up the Rhine before they have anything like an adequate idea of what beauties lurk in their own little island, and what grandeur rests on its mountains. "The Royal Academy Reformed" is a sensible piece of exposition, and the critical paper on Mr. Kirk's "Charles the Bold" will be read with interest.

THE social science articles in *Meliora* treat this month of "The Moral Unity of Humanity," "The Social Evil and its Causes," "Life and its Renewal," and "Co-operation."—In *Temple Bar* we find the following continuations:—"The Doctor's Wife," by the author of "Lady Audley's Secret;" "The Streets of the World," by Mr. Sala; and the "Trials of the Tredgolds," by the author of "A Prodigal Son." Mr. Edmund Yates commences a new story of English domestic life, which he calls "Broken to Harness." The critical faculty shows itself to advantage in the papers entitled "Horæ Virgilianæ;" and the article on William Shenstone is both kindly and judicious.

"THE Clever Woman of the Family" is continued in the *Churchman's Family Magazine*, and bids fair to fulfil the anticipations we formed on its first appearance. Last month this magazine contained "Sir Gore Ouseley's Notes on Church Music," and now the editor, with commendable judgment, follows it up with Dr. Monk's excellent remarks on "Congregational Singing in Churches." "Christian Art" is a subject on which we have the first article of a series which will be very interesting and instructive. Excellent woodcuts aid the writer.

THE *Eclectic* has a long laudation of Mr. Froude's last two volumes, from which the writer makes judicious extracts. The article on Charles Knight is also of a genial and approving kind; and the same may be said of the paper on "Robertson's Sermons." The chapter on "Noses: what they mean, and how to use them," is ingenious and amusing.

*The Rose, the Shamrock, and the Thistle Magazine* contains "Jacob Morriston," "Misses and Matrimony," by Captain Knollys, and "Women of Merit connected with Criminal Trials," by Serjeant Burke. Feather Penn, Esq., commences a novelette which he calls "Harry Vowhampton." "Evanescence Literature," "Twilight," and the "Archæology of a few of our Colloquial Expressions" are all very readable.—*London Society* continues to charm with the excellence of its illustrations and the light sparkle of its articles. This month it is specially noticeable for the excellent woodcut of Thackeray after the photograph of Mr. Herbert Watkins, and the very genial little article which accompanies it.—"Cure by ye Touch," in *St. James's Magazine*, seems to have been carefully prepared, and contains much historic allusion and fact. "Love Lays of Horace and Catullus" is written by a scholar who has taste and discrimination.—*Good Words* seems up to its usual mark, and has some good illustrations from the pencil of Millais and others.—We have also received the *Christian Spectator*, the *Sixpenny Magazine*, the *Family Herald*, the *Christian Treasury*, *Our Own Fireside*, the *Chess Player's Magazine*, *Christian Work*, *Events of the Month*, *Every Boy's Magazine*, and the *Child's Commentator*, the two last illustrated.

*The Ibis: a Magazine of General Ornithology.* (Trübner.)—THIS admirably-edited and exquisitely-illustrated contribution to ornithology still keeps up its well-earned reputation, and deals with new additions to the list of feathered bipeds from beneath every sky, we ought almost to say, besides our own, for the editor, Dr. Selater, in his preface, is obliged to express his regret that more communications do not reach him respecting the birds of the British Islands. He further remarks that the ornithology even of the most remote regions of the globe is engaging the increased attention of both travellers and resident naturalists; and this latter remark is admirably borne out by the contents of this volume, which numbers among its contributors such men as Wallace, Swinhoe, Newton, and the editor, not to mention a host of others. We have tried to pick out the most beautiful bird in order to commend it especially to the attention of our readers. They



# THE READER.

6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

are all so beautiful, however, and so well drawn and painted, that we have been compelled to give up the task.

*Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.* Parts 3 and 4, Vol. XX. (Quaritch.)—THESE parts are invaluable to all interested in the people and languages of Asia; and, among the subjects dealt with of perhaps even more general interest, we may mention those on Indian embassies to Rome from Claudius to Justinian, note on the Rêh efflorescence of N.W. India, a paper by Mr. Spottiswoode on the Lûrya Siddhanta, invaluable to all students of the history of astronomy, and a letter dealing with the botany, geology, &c., of a part of Madagascar.

*The Medical Mirror: a Monthly Magazine of Current Medical Literature and News.* No. I. January. (Lewis.)—WE are informed in the address which leads off this new monthly, that, "with the single exception of a monthly periodical published in Scotland, there is no paper in Great Britain which serves to fill up the wide space of distinction between the medical weekly journals and quarterly reviews." We trust therefore that this publication will take firm root, and will occupy this vacant ground. The plan is a very useful one. Original Articles, Reviews, a Monthly Retrospect of British and Foreign Medical Journals, News of the Month, and Medical Intelligence. Among the original articles in this first number, one by Mr. Laurence on "Astigmatism" is of great and general interest. We are glad also to point out the admirable manner in which the foreign medical journals are looked after.

*Dictionary of Chemistry and the allied Branches of other Sciences.* By Henry Watts, F.C.S. Parts 9—11. (Longman & Co.)—THIS valuable contribution to our chemical literature, which we have so gladly called attention to on former occasions, is in each successive part justifying the anticipations we formed of it on the appearance of the first number. The January part brings us down to "Gallotannic Acid." It has been found impracticable to continue the monthly publication of twelve sheets consistently with proper editorial care, but it is considered desirable not to give up the monthly publication. It has therefore been determined to issue monthly half the number of sheets, at a proportionate reduction of price.

WE have received from Messrs. Longman & Co. part three of the *People's Edition of Macaulay's History of England*; from Messrs. Groombridge and Sons the current number of the "Magnet Stories," entitled *Helena's Duties*, by the author of "A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam;" and from Mr. Blake, *Hints on the Etiquette of Courtship and Marriage*, forming one of the *Family Herald Handy-Books*. The delicacy and sense with which our author treats the subject are very noticeable; and, from the piquancy of the remarks, were it for nothing else, we should be inclined to say the writer was a lady.—From Messrs. Ward and Lock we have part second of their beautifully-illustrated *Arabian Nights' Entertainments*. The artists are Millais, Tenniel, Watson, Dalziel, and Houghton.

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ARCHBOLD'S PARISH OFFICER, and SHAW'S PARISH LAW. Fourth Edition. By James Paterson, Esq. 12mo., pp. 486. Shaw and Sons. 10s.

ARNOLD (J. Muehleisen). English Biblical Criticism and the Pentateuch from a German point of view. Vol. 1. 8vo. Longman. 6s.

BARRETT (R. F.). Catholicity of the New Church, &c. Cr. 8vo. Longman. 4s. 6d.

BIBLE. The Critical and Explanatory Pocket Bible. The Holy Bible, according to the Authorized Version, with Original and Selected Parallel References and Marginal Readings, and an Original and Copious Critical and Explanatory Commentary. (Vol. 3.) New Testament. Matthew—Romans. By the Rev. David Brown, D.D. New Edition. Fcap. 8vo. Collins. 3s. 6d.

BLUMBERG (Henry). Poems, English and German. Post 8vo. Williams and Norgate. 3s. 6d.

BON NAVALLE AND THE MISTS OF HERCULESPONT. Cr. 8vo., pp. 86, ancient-faced type, cloth, gilt-edged, and gilt-lettered. Edinburgh: Caledonian Press. 3s. 6d.; plain, 2s. 6d.

BROWN (Rev. George Sackling, B.D.). Mosaic Cosmogony. A Literal Translation of the First Chapter of Genesis, with Annotations and Rationales. 8vo., pp. viii—132. Masters. 5s.

BROWN (W. A., LL.D.). Money, Weights, and Measures of the Chief Commercial Nations in the World, with the British Equivalents. Fcap. 8vo., pp. v—55. Stanford. 1s.

BUCKMASTER (J. C.). Elements of Mechanical Physics. Roy. 18mo., pp. iv—188. Chapman and Hall. 3s. 6d.

BURNS (Robert). Poetical Works. With Memoir, Prefatory Notes, and a complete Marginal Glossary. With Portrait and Illustrations. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 597. Glasgow: Marr. 3s. 6d.

CARLETON (William). Evil Eye; or, the Black Spectre. New Edition. Fcap. 8vo., bds., pp. 339. Duffy. 2s.

CARRINGTON (R. C., F.R.S.). Observations of the Spots on the Sun from November 1853 to March 1861, made at Redhill. Illustrated. 4to. Williams and Norgate. 2s.

CLARKE (Charles). Charlie Thornhill; or, the Dunce of the Family. A Novel. Second Edition. Cr. 8vo., pp. x—388. Chapman and Hall. 5s.

COTTAGE COMMENTARY (The). The Gospel according to St. Luke. Fcap. 8vo., cl., pp. 266. Masters. 2s. 6d.

DANIEL (Mrs. Mackenzie). Miriam's Sorrow. Two Volumes. Post 8vo. Newby. 2s.

DELACROIX (J. L.). Petit Moniteur; or, the French Conversation Class. Sq. cr. 8vo., pp. 180. Causton. 5s.

DO IT WITH THY MIGHT; or, Our Work in the World. Addressed to those who ask "What shall we do?" By the Author of "What my Thoughts are; or, Glimpses and Guesses of Things Seen and Unseen." 18mo., pp. 103. Jarrold. 1s. 6d.

DORA HAMILTON; or, Sunshine and Shadow. With Illustrations. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 180. Religious Tract Society. 2s.

DU GUESCLIN (Bertrand), Life and Times of: a History of the Fourteenth Century. By D. F. Jamison. With Portrait. Two Volumes 8vo., pp. xxiv—601. Trübner. 21s.

ENGLISH HEARTS AND ENGLISH HANDS; or, the Railway and the Trenches. By the Author of the "Memorials of Captain Hedley Vicars." Fortieth Thousand. Fcap. 8vo. Nisbet. 5s.

EVANS (Alfred Bowen, D.D.). Future of the Human Race. Lectures delivered during the Session of Advent. Fcap. 8vo., cl., pp. 62. Skeffington. 1s.

FAMILY HYMN-BOOK (The). A Selection of 500 Hymns and Spiritual Songs. 32mo. Blackie. 2s.

HANDBOOK TO THE CATHEDRALS OF ENGLAND. Western Division. Bristol, Gloucester, Hereford, Worcester, Lichfield. With Illustrations. Cr. 8vo., pp. vii—325. Murray. 10s.

HINTS ON THE ETIQUETTE OF COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE (Family Herald Handy-Books. No. 13.) 24mo., 3d., pp. 63. Blake. 3d.

IRVING (Edward). Collected Writings. In Five Volumes. Edited by his Nephew, the Rev. G. Carlyle, M.A. Vol. 1. 8vo., pp. ix—645. Strahan. 12s.

JAMES (G. P. R.). Castle of Ehrenstein. A Romance. New Edition. Fcap. 8vo., ed., pp. 348. Routledge. 1s.

JOHNSON (Joseph). Popular Preachers of Our Time: their Eloquence, Ministry, and Works. With Portraits. Cr. 8vo., pp. xii—324. Cassell. 5s.

KARCHER (Theodore, B.A., LL.B.). Biographies Militaires. Second Edition. 12mo., pp. xii—275. Nutt. 3s. 6d.

LANDELS (William). True Manhood: its Nature, Foundation, and Development. A Book for Young Men. Third Edition. Sm. cr. 8vo., pp. viii—269. Nisbet. 3s. 6d.

LEE (William). Recent Forms of Unbelief. Some Account of Renan's "Vie de Jésus." 8vo., ed., pp. 39. Edmonston. 1s.

MCGREGOR (P., M.A.). System of Logic, comprising a Discussion of the various means of Acquiring and Retaining Knowledge and avoiding Error. Roy. 12mo., pp. 489. Low. 6s.

M'NAMUS (Rev. Henry). Sketches of the Irish Highlands: Descriptive, Social, and Religious. With special reference to Irish Missions in West Connaught since 1840. Cr. 8vo., pp. xi—243. Hamilton. 3s. 6d.

MARSHALL (Emma). Consideration; or, How can we Help one another? 18mo., pp. 129. Jarrold. 1s. 6d.

MISCHIEF-MAKER (The) and the Peace-Maker. Fcap. 8vo. pp. 94. Jarrold. 1s.

MOLESWORTH (Guilford L.). Pocket-Book of Useful Formula and Memoranda for Civil and Mechanical Engineers. Fifth Edition. With Supplement. Obg. 32mo., pp. v—245. Spon. 4s. 6d.

NICHOLS (Dr. Thomas L.). Forty Years of American Life. Two Volumes, 8vo., pp. 776. J. Maxwell. 32s.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY CALENDAR (The), 1864. Corrected to the end of Michaelmas Term, 1863. 12mo. J. H. and J. Parker. 4s.

PRIEST'S PRAYER-BOOK (The). Edited by Two Clergymen. 12mo., pp. viii—144. Masters. 4s. 6d.

PRIZE PAPERS WRITTEN ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS FOR THE BOY'S OWN MAGAZINE. 8vo., pp. ii—153. Becton. 3s. 6d.

PUNCH. Reissue. Vol. 35. January to June, 1859. 4to., bds., Office. 5s.

READING DISENTANGLED; or, Classified Lessons in Spelling and Reading. By the Author of "Peep of Day," &c. Second Thousand. Roy. 16mo. Farty. 2s. 6d.

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## MISCELLANEA.

A MOST significant and important fact of the week is the intimation in the Queen's Speech that her Majesty has appointed a commission for revising the various forms of subscription and declaration required of the clergy of the Church of England.

TRINITY COLLEGE, Cambridge, has this year supplied no fewer than sixteen of the Wranglers out of a total list of forty-three; and among these sixteen are the senior wrangler, the second, and the fourth. Mr. J. H. Purkiss, the senior wrangler, went to Trinity College from the City of London School and the University of London.

DIED at Hampstead, on the 29th of January, at the age of 81, Miss Lucy Aikin, known not only as an authoress herself, but also as one of a family noted in British authorship. She was the daughter of that Dr. John Aikin, and niece of that Miss Aikin, afterwards Mrs. Barbauld, whose joint work, "Evenings at Home," is still so popular, and some of whose separate productions are also remembered and read. Dr. Aikin died in 1822, aged 75, and Mrs. Barbauld in 1825, aged 81. A son of Dr. Aikin, Dr. Arthur Aikin, distinguished as a chemist and geologist, died in 1854 at the same age of 81—his sister Lucy having survived him just ten years. Lucy Aikin's last published work was a "Life of Addison," which appeared some twenty years ago.

THEY are many who will hear with regret of the death of Miss Adelaide Procter, the daughter of Mr. Bryan Waller Procter (Barry Cornwall), and herself already of distinct rank among our poets by her publications of late years. Her lyrics had a cast of their own, and seem to have set the example of a style in which other lady-poets have followed. A large circle of friends much attached to Miss Procter and to her family have been prepared for some time for the sad event of her loss.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Morning Post* points out the following instance of slipshod English in no less important an inscription than that on the tombstone of the late Archbishop of Canterbury: "To the memory of John Bird Sumner, D.D., Archbishop of Canterbury; consecrated Bishop of Chester 1828; translated to Canterbury 1848; died Sept. 6, 1862, in the 83rd year of his age." On what principle of syntax, the writer asks, is the word "died" used here? There seems to be a passion at present for picking out such instances of slipshod English in eminent places. The phrase "confined of a prince" in one of the recent bulletins announcing the birth of a son to the Prince and Princess of Wales was very sharply commented on. It is quite right that these little slips should be noticed. Only sometimes in noticing them the critics fall into another kind of literary vice—that of exaggeration. For example, in one place where the "confined of a prince," and other unsatisfactory modes of expression in the recent bulletins were commented on, the writer used words to this effect, "We blush to think that in our age such expressions should be used." Now did the writer blush at the thought? Was there the slightest tendency to even a beginning of a change of colour? We fancy not, and that he simply used a strong form of trite expression. But this non-correspondence of the language used with the exact reality of the occasion is as much to be avoided as slipshod expressions or bad syntax.

MR. HENRY MAYHEW has been appointed British Consul at Copenhagen.

MR. EDWARD DICEY has left London this week for Schleswig; and his correspondence from the seat of war there will, doubtless, be expected with peculiar interest in the columns of a London morning paper by those who know his graphic power and his fair and candid spirit as a writer, as shown in his little book on modern Rome, his letters from America in *Macmillan* and the *Spectator*, and his other publications.

In a lecture at the Working Men's College, Great Ormond Street, on Saturday evening last, Mr. Ruskin dwelt on various discouragements which, he said, afflicted him after all his life of



labour. Spite all he had done for the exposition of Turner, he said, that painter was not understood yet, and his paintings and drawings remained uncared for and improperly housed. As to architecture, though something was doing in that art, more especially in Manchester, the present generation of Englishmen would pass away before Gothic architecture was rightly appreciated. He had tried to cultivate a love of nature; and actually the most lovely natural scenes in Europe—the falls of Schaffhausen and the Lake of Geneva—had been recently marred for ever by railway bridges and embankments, hotels, factories, and what not. Even pre-Raphaelitism, Mr. Ruskin said, was degenerating, and forgetting the principle with which it set out—that nobility of subject is a main thing in painting; nay, the pre-Raphaelites were forgetting even conscientiousness of workmanship.

MR. ADAM BLACK, who has been labouring most sedulously during the vacation on the subject, in communication with literary men and publishers, will early this session bring in a bill for the consolidation of the Acts relating to Literary Copy-right.

THE first number of *The Churchman's Guide*, a penny illustrated weekly journal on Church of England principles, will appear on Wednesday, March 2nd, 1864.

THE Stratford-on-Avon Shakespeare Tercentenary Committee have opened a "Central Ticket Office," No. 2, Exeter Hall, for the receipt of subscriptions in aid of the objects of the Festival, where information as to the general arrangements may from time to time be obtained.

IN *Theology* MESSRS. LONGMAN & Co. have published "English Biblical Criticism and the Pentateuch from a German Point of View," by John Mühleisen Arnold, B.D.; and they announce "The History of the Formation of the Prayer-Book," by the Rev. G. H. Stoddart, B.D.—MR. MURRAY announces "Meditations on the Essence of the Christian Religion," by M. Guizot, translated from the French; MESSRS. RIVINGTONS, "The Last Sermons of the Rev. Thomas Singer, M.A.," and "School Sermons by the Rev. Ed. St. John Parry, M.A.;" MESSRS. J. H. AND J. PARKER, "Daniel the Prophet: Eight Lectures," by the Rev. E. B. Pusey, D.D.; MESSRS. DEIGHTON, BELL, & Co., "The Authenticity of the Book of Daniel," by the Rev. J. M. Fuller, M.A.; "The Apostle Paul and the Christian Church at Philippi," by the late Rev. J. F. Todd; and Weiseler's "Chronological Synopsis of the Four Gospels," translated by the Rev. E. Venables, M.A.; and MESSRS. JACKSON, WALFORD, AND HODDER, "The Rise and Progress of Religious Life in England," by S. Rowler Pattison, F.G.S., and "Thoughts on the Divine Treatment of Sin," by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown.

IN *Historical Literature and Biography* we are promised by MESSRS. LONGMAN & Co. "A Biographical Sketch of the late Sir Benjamin E. Brodie," by Henry W. Acland, M.D.; by MR. MURRAY, "The History of the Interregnum from the Death of Charles I. to the Battle of Dunbar," by Andrew Bisset; a "History of the French Revolution from 1789-1795," by Professor Sybel; and a "Dictionary of Ancient Ecclesiastical Biography," to be edited by Dr. W. Smith; by MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co., "A Short History of England down to the Reformation," by Goldwin Smith, M.A., and "The Roman and the Teuton, University Lectures," by the Rev. Charles Kingsley; by MESSRS. BELL AND DALDY, "The Decline of the Roman Republic," by George Long, M.A.; and by MESSRS. HURST AND BLACKETT, "My Life and Recollections," by the Hon. Grantley F. Berkeley.

IN *Fiction*, during the month, MESSRS. LONGMAN & Co. will publish "Late Laurels," a tale; MESSRS. HURST AND BLACKETT, "Agnes," by Mrs. Oliphant; "The Cost of Caer Gwn," by Mary Howitt; "My Stepfather's Home," by Lady Blake; "Sybilla Lockwood," by Noell Redcliffe; and "A New Story of English Life," by the Rev. J. M. Bellet; MESSRS. CHAPMAN AND HALL, "The Town of the Cascades," by Michael Banim, and "Emilia in England," by George Meredith; MR. BENTLEY, "Wylde's Hand," by J. Sheridan Le Fanu, and "The Danes Sketched by Themselves," a series of Popular Stories, translated by Mrs. Bushby; MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER, & Co., "Mr. and Mrs. Fauleconbridge," by Hamilton Aidé; and MR. NEWBY, "Raised to the Wool-sack," by Langton Lockhart; "The Diary of George Dern," and "Above and Below," by J. N. Gannon.

IN *Miscellaneous Literature*, including Voyages and Travels, MESSRS. LONGMAN & Co. have in the press "Eastern Europe and Western

Asia in 1861, 2, and 3," by Henry Arthur Tilley; MR. MURRAY, "Rambles in the Deserts of Syria and among the Turcomans and Bedaweens;" MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER, & Co., "The Hekim Bashi; or, Adventures of Giuseppe Antonelli, a Physician in the Turkish Service," by Dr. H. Sandwith, and "Journal of a Diplomatic Three Years' Residence in Persia," by E. B. Eastwick, Esq.; MESSRS. BELL & DALDY, "The Customs and Traditions of Palestine compared with the Bible, from Observations made during a Residence of Eight Years," by Dr. Ermete Pierotti; and MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL, "Vladimir and Catherine; or, Kiev in the Year 1861."

MESSRS. STRAHAN & Co. announce a new work by the Countess de Gasparin, author of "The New and Heavenly Horizons," and another by Dr. Bushnell, author of "Nature and the Supernatural," both as on the eve of publication.

MR. HOWARD STAUNTON'S photo-lithographic fac-simile of the First Folio Shakespeare of 1623 will be completed in sixteen monthly parts at half-a-guinea each. Mr. Booth's reprint of this celebrated Folio is in three parts, also at half-a-guinea each, and will be published as a complete volume on the morning of the Tercentenary Commemoration. Those who can afford £8. 8s. will have in Mr. Staunton's photo-lithograph a fac-simile of one variety of the precious volume; those who pay Mr. Booth £1. 11s. 6d. for his reprint will not only have the text of one variety of the first edition, but, by means of the addition of the various readings to be met with in others, the most complete reproduction of the Folio text. Both works should, respectively, prove a great success. We have compared several pages of Mr. Booth's reprint carefully with the original and can, so far, vouch for its extreme accuracy.

WE have received from Messrs. Williams and Norgate the fifth volume of the works of Leibnitz, now published for the first time. It contains the history and complete biography of the *Consilium Aegyptiacum*, which, originally supposed to be of 25 pages, has now been found to consist of some 300. The whole story is of great interest from a literary as well as from a historical point of view.

THE first volume of the "Bibliothèque de Philosophie Contemporaine" has just made its appearance. It contains "Le Positivisme Anglais; Étude sur Stuart Mill par M. M. Taine." It will speedily be followed by five others:—"L'Idéalisme en Angleterre, par M. M. Taine;" "Le Matérialisme Contemporain en Allemagne, par M. Paul Janet;" "La Philosophie de l'Histoire, par M. Odysse Barot;" "L'Art Contemporain et le Spiritualisme, par M. Charles Léviq;" "Le Spiritualisme Contemporain en France, par M. Emile Saisset;" and "La Psychologie des Signes, par M. Albert Lemoine."

THE French Institute has lost the following members by death during 1863:—Horace Vernet (Académie des Beaux-Arts), Barthe (Académie des Sciences Morales et politiques), Despretz (Académie des Sciences), Bravais (Académie des Sciences), Moquin Tandon (Académie des Sciences), Berger de Xivrey (Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres), Eugène Delacroix (Académie des Beaux-Arts), Alfred de Vigny (Académie Française), Villermé (Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques), Emile Saisset (Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques). Of French *littérateurs* in general may be mentioned: Léon de Wailly, the translator of Shakespeare and Walter Scott; Lucien Arnault, poet; Madame Dutertre (née Baroness of Carlowitz), authoress of novels and dramas, and laureate of the French Academy for her translations of Klopstock and Schiller; Charrin, dramatist and *chansonnier*; Nicole, vaudevillist; Jean Renaud, *littérateur* and philosopher; A. de Goy, translator of Dickens; Henri Boisseaux, dramatic author; Emile Lamé, contributor to the *Revue Nationale, Contemporaine, Revue de Paris*, &c. Among other foreign writers of note who died in the course of last year, are: Drynody, a Hungarian poet; Francisco Antuna de Figueroa, national poet of the Republic of Uruguay; Galvaz Amandi, a Spanish dramatist; Miniszewsky, a Polish *littérateur* and journalist, who, having forsaken the national cause, fell by the hands of the Secret Tribunal; Teobaldo Cicconi, a Venetian poet; Louis Olona, a Spanish comic writer; Alexander Soutzo, Greek poet; Mary Gordon (Alexandra Bergen), dramatic authoress, and translator of many French and English dramas into German; Friedrich Hebbel, the eminent German dramatist; Ventura de la Vega, of Madrid; Moser, a German poet; Johannes Sporschil, the German historian, &c., &c. Of men of science the world has lost, in France:

Louis Lucas, chemist and physician; A. G. Houbigaut, archæologist; Guistan Le Glay, corresponding member of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres; Benjamin Pantex, philologist; Louis Doyère, naturalist; Frantin, Jules Bergson, De Lastour, antiquaries, &c., Gormelle, the editor of the *Annales Télégraphiques*, who fixed the first telegraphic line from Paris to Rouen in 1845; Delamarre, Sinologist, &c. Further, in other parts of the Continent: Dr. Carl Kreil, Director of the Imperial Meteorological Institution at Vienna; Rumher, Director of the Hamburg Observatory; Lehmann, celebrated chemist at Jena; Rossi, Professor of Natural History at Venice; Christophe Bernouillé, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Basle; Steiver, geometer, corresponding member of the Académie des Sciences de l'Institut; G. B. Amici, Professor of Astronomy at the Museum of Florence; San Giorgio Spinelli, archæologist, Director of the Museo Borbonico at Naples; Virgilio Trettenero, Professor of Astronomy at the Observatory at Padua; Mitscherlich, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Berlin; Jacob Grimm, &c., &c.

"CORNEILLE, Shakespeare, et Goethe: Etudes sur l'Influence Anglo-Germanique en France au XIX<sup>e</sup> Siècle," is the title of M. W. Reymond's new contribution to the literary history of France. His "Etudes sur la Littérature du Second Empire Français" is, as is well known, not allowed to enter France. Both works are published at Berlin.

A FRENCH *Notes and Queries*, under the title *L'Intermédiaire des Chercheurs et des Curieux* has lately been started in Paris.

THE annual *revue* of the Théâtre Français shows that, on 361 nights during the past year, there were performed on that stage 95 different pieces. Among the classics we have Corneille, with 5, Racine with 9, Voltaire with 1, Molière with 20, Regnard with 3, Montfleuri, Lafontaine, Lesage, D'Altenval, and Collin d'Harville with 1 each, Ledaïne with 2, and Marcivaux with 5. Of modern writers the principal pieces were by Scribe, Delavigne, and Augier, with 3 pieces each. The most frequent performances were those of "Le Fils du Giboyer," by Augier—viz., 94; his "Jeunesse" was repeated 22 times. Of the five novelties, "Jean Beaudry" had 24, "La Toge d'Opéra" 34, "Le Dernier Quartier" 30 repetitions. Of operas were the most popular "Masaniello," played 52 times in the Grand Opéra, "La Dame Blanche" 54 times in the Opéra Comique, "Rigoletto" 14 times in the Italian Theatre, and "Faust" 52 times in the Théâtre Lyrique.

"NOTRE-DAME de France, ou Histoire du Culte de la Sainte-Vierge en France depuis l'Origine du Christianisme jusqu'à nos jours" is announced.

"DEUTSCHLAND vorwärts: Dichterstimmen aus München Schleswig-Holstein," is the title of a collection of new patriotic songs by Bodenstedt, Grosse, Lichtenstein, Lingg, Reder, Schalk, just published.

"Das hohe Lied, übersetzt von Willeram, erklärt von Rilindis und Herrat, Abtissinnen zu Hohenburg im Elsass (1147-1196)," has been edited from the unique MS. at the Imperial Library at Vienna by J. Haupt.

THERE are now 58 theatres in the whole of the Austrian Empire—viz., 20 in Lower Austria; in Upper Austria, Salzburg, Käruthen, Krain, Silesia, Galicia, Dalmatia, and the Banat, 1 each; in Istria 3, in the Tyrol 3, in Bohemia 2, in Moravia 4, in Lombardy 2, in Venetia 11, and in Transylvania 4.

MÖBIUS'S "Ueber die altnordische Philologie im Skandinavischen Norden," a very valuable paper read at the last Germanists' meeting, has appeared in a separate form.

THE first volume of Bernhardi's "Geschichte Russlands und der Europäischen Politik in den Jahren 1814 bis 1831" is said to be a masterly and impartial history of the period.

IN preparation for the great centenary commemoration of Dante decreed by the municipality of Florence to be held in May 1865, there is to be published in Florence, thrice a month, a journal exclusively devoted to Dante matters (*esclusivamente dantesco*). It is to commence this month, and is to continue till June 1865, under the title of *Giornale del Centenario*.

ADELAIDE RISTORI, we learn from Italian papers, has engaged an Italian poet, Paolo Franchi, to write for her a drama, to be entitled *Henrico VIII.*, in which she intends to play all the king's (five) wives, one after the other. Perhaps this is a joke.

THE Roman poet and satirist Joachim Belli died recently at Rome in his seventieth year. Of late he has produced little or nothing worth record, but, some twenty years ago, his satires,



6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

levelled against the Papal government and the aristocracy of Rome, did good service in the cause of Italian liberty.

We have to record the recent death of one of the foremost writers of Spain, Ventura de la Vega. His lyrics are of a high order; but his chief field was the drama. His comedy "The Man of the World" earned for him the distinction of a membership of the Royal Academy of Madrid.

A SPANISH translation of M. Renan's "Vie de Jésus," by M. Frederico de la Vega, has been published at Paris.

#### THE NATIONAL SHAKESPEARE COMMITTEE.

To the Editor of THE READER.

SIR,—May I ask you for space for two lines to say that I have withdrawn from the "National Shakespeare Committee"?

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS HOOD.

Arundel Club, 29th January, 1864.

#### SCIENCE.

##### PROFESSOR FRANKLAND ON THE GLACIAL EPOCH.

WE have to lay another contribution to our knowledge of the past history of this world of ours before our readers, and a contribution which, if we mistake not, in its great suggestiveness, will beget others equally valuable on a subject which has lately flashed up, as it were, into all its importance. Thus, the molten condition of our earth in a past time being taken for granted, following hard upon Helmholtz's experiments on the cooling of a globe of basalt, Professor Thomson has concluded that the consolidation may, most probably, have taken place between 20 and 400 millions of years ago, 98 millions being a likely estimate. More lately, the Rev. Professor Hughton has investigated the subject and requires some 1280 millions of years between the first existence of life and the London Clay period, or, in other words—the cooling down of the earth being of course always in question—between the periods at which the mean temperature of the surface of the earth was 122 F. and 77 F. The lamented Plana, too, whose decease we announce to-day, worked last at this subject ere he died. So much for the mere theoretical deduction of past temperatures. Mr. Sterry Hunt, however, has not rested content with this, but, as our readers have already been informed, has not hesitated to apply Professor Tyndall's latest discoveries to the study of the climate even of the Palæozoic times, and to point out the chemical constitution of the atmosphere at that time and the consequences to be deduced from it. Last week too we reported an interesting discussion about the glaciers of the Himalayas at the Geographical Society, and Professor Hind of Toronto, who is now among us in England, has dealt with other glaciers since, as our reports will show. Nor must we forget here to allude to a letter which we publish to-day bearing on the same subject. And, last of all, Professor Frankland has brought the glaciers of past and present ages into court in a manner which well deserves the thanks of the scientific world, although, perhaps, the geologists will have something to say to him in reply. Before we pass on to his discourse, we may be permitted to point out the extreme interest of Professor Frankland's original observations on the moon, merging geology, properly so called, into astronomy at one end of the scale, as the recent researches into the antiquity of man have merged it into archaeology on the other. The moon, too, if we are not mistaken, is not the only member of our system which may be appealed to in support of this gradual running down of the earth's heat. Will Mr. Sterry Hunt accept the present atmospheric condition of Jupiter and Saturn as illustrations of his theory? and may not the almost ridiculous similarity which exists between those same conditions here and on Mars, as proved by recent observations, be in some way reconciled with those before named by taking the much smaller mass of Mars into consideration? Spectrum-analysis must be called into requisition to help us to the solution of these and other questions which Dr. Frankland's suggestive lecture has given rise to.

Professor Frankland commenced his discourse by referring to the evidences of the glacial epoch investigated by Venetz, Esmark, Charpentier, Buckland, Ramsay, and others, who have abundantly shown that the Highlands of Scotland, the mountains of Wales and

Cumberland, and the limestone crags of Yorkshire exhibit indubitable evidence of the characteristic grinding and polishing action of masses of ice—evidence which leaves no doubt that the valleys of these mountain ranges were once filled with glaciers of dimensions unsurpassed, if even equalled, by those which at the present day stream down the flanks of their gigantic Swiss rivals. Not only did this perpetual ice occur where no such phenomenon is now observed, but comparatively recent observations have established that the glaciers of the present age existing in Switzerland, Norway, and elsewhere are but the nearly dried up streamlets of ancient ice rivers of enormous size. These glaciers have eroded the alpine valleys of which they once held possession, have scooped out the lochs and kyles of Scotland as well as the grander fjords of Norway, and have contributed in a most essential manner to the present aspect of our mountain scenery. Professor Frankland remarked that in no part of the world perhaps can the phenomena of the glacial epoch be more advantageously studied than in Norway, where the ice-scarred coasts and fjords are still fully exposed to the eye of the observer; and, indeed, the two thousand miles of coast from Christiania to the North Cape afford almost uninterrupted evidence of the vast ice operations which, during the epoch in question, moulded nearly every feature of this remarkable country. The Professor then went on to describe the chief points of interest in the Norwegian scenery, which were illustrated by the pencil of his friend Mr. Duppa, from sketches by Professor Forbes and Mr. Mattieu Williams.

The Hardanger, Romsdal, Trondhjem, Namsen, and Salten fjords exhibit everywhere the most unmistakable evidence that they were once filled with vast glaciers—to which, in fact, those fjords without doubt mainly owe their existence. The Hardanger, with its modern glaciers streaming down from the *nevé* of the Folge Fond, is a magnificent example of the channel of an ancient ice river. Wherever its rocky shores are bare they are seen to be scarred with the characteristic flutings, the position of which, and the freedom from abrasion of those surfaces which are precipitously inclined towards the mouth of the fjord, plainly proclaim the direction in which this gigantic glacier moved. It was natural that these accumulating evidences of a former condition of the surface of our planet, so different from that which now obtains, should have called forth various hypotheses intended to account for a thermal state which permitted the occupation, by such vast ice masses, of tracts of land which now yield abundant pasturage and luxuriant crops. Thus, it has been suggested that the temperature of space is not uniform, and that our solar system, in its motion among the stars, passes through regions much colder than others. According to this hypothesis, the glacial epoch occurred during the passage of our system through a cold portion of space. Some have imagined that the heat emitted by our sun is subject to variation, and that the glacial epoch occurred during what may be termed a cold solar period. Others, again, believe that a different distribution of land and water may have rendered the climate of certain localities colder than it is at present, and would thus account for the phenomena of the glacial epoch; and, finally, Professor Kämtz has suggested that, at the time of the glacial period, the mountains were much higher than at present—Mont Blanc 20,000 feet, for instance—the secondary and tertiary formations having been eroded from their summits during the glacial epoch.

The two last assumptions, when taken in connexion with the established extent of the glacial period over the entire globe, are attended with such formidable geological difficulties that they have never acquired more than a very partial acceptance; whilst Professor Tyndall has shown that the two first-named hypotheses are founded upon an entirely erroneous conception of the conditions of the phenomenon sought to be explained. The formation of glaciers is, as he has explained, a *true process of distillation*, requiring heat as much as cold for its due performance. Thus the produce of a still would be diminished (and not increased) by an absolute reduction of temperature. A greater differentiation of temperature is what is required to stimulate the operation into greater activity. Now, although Professor Tyndall does not suggest any cause of such exalted differentiation during the glacial epoch, he proves conclusively that both the hypotheses just mentioned, besides being totally unsupported by cosmical facts, are not only incompetent to constitute such a cause, but assume a

condition of things which would cut off the glaciers at their source by diminishing the evaporation upon which their existence essentially depends. Professor Frankland then proceeded to divide the great natural glacial apparatus—a still on a gigantic scale—into three parts—viz., the evaporator, the condenser, and the receiver. The part performed by the ocean as the evaporator is too obvious to need description; not so, however, the two remaining parts of the apparatus, which are too generally confounded with each other. Thus he contended that the mountains were in reality the receivers or *ice-bearers*, and were only in a subordinate sense condensers. The true condenser he conceived to be the dry air of the upper regions of the atmosphere, which, as has been recently so conclusively shown by Professor Tyndall, permitted the free radiation of the heat from aqueous vapour into space. This radiation from aqueous vapour was here experimentally illustrated in an admirable manner by causing a jet of pure and dry steam to pass in front of a thermo-pile; the galvanometer connected with the latter promptly showed a large deflection, due to heat, proving that the thermo-pile was receiving radiant heat from the aqueous vapour; although a jet of ordinary air heated in the same manner and projected equally in front of the pile produced no such effect. Thus we find that all the hypotheses hitherto propounded are entirely unsatisfactory when scrutinized by the light of recent research to account for the conditions which brought about the glacial epoch; and Professor Frankland, in advancing a new theory, which had gradually elaborated itself out of the impressions which he had received during a recent visit to Norway, could do so with so much the less reluctance. Now, it is evident that such a theory must take cognisance of the following points in the history of the glacial epoch:—1st. Its effects were felt over the entire globe; 2nd. It occurred at a *geologically* recent period; 3rd. It was preceded by a period of indefinite duration, in which glacial action was altogether wanting, or was at least comparatively insignificant; 4th. During its continuance, atmospheric precipitation was much greater, and the height of the snow-line considerably less than at present; 5th. It was followed by a period extending to the present time, in which glacial action has become again insignificant.

All these conditions, Professor Frankland asserts, are the natural sequences of the gradual secular cooling of the surface of our globe; so that *the sole cause of the phenomena of the glacial epoch was a higher temperature of the ocean than that which obtains at present.*

Professor Frankland then examined the grounds upon which this hypothesis is based. He alluded to the well-known evidence of the internal heat of the earth, and, tracing back the thermal history of our globe, he contended that it was conceivable that the waters of the ocean once existed as aqueous vapour in our atmosphere. From the period, therefore, when the cooling of the earth's surface permitted the ocean to assume the liquid condition, its waters have gradually cooled from the boiling point down to the present temperature, whilst the land has also undergone a similar process of refrigeration. *It was during the later stages of this cooling operation that the glacial epoch occurred.* For this assumption, however, it is necessary to establish that the rate of cooling of the land and ocean surfaces was unequal, otherwise the more rapid evaporation of the ocean, due to increased temperature, would be more or less neutralized by the impaired efficiency of the proportionately warm ice-bearers. Numerous experiments undertaken by the lecturer on the rates of cooling of water and granite have conclusively proved that, under the conditions assumed, the land would cool more rapidly than the sea. Further, the recent and hitherto unpublished researches of Professor Tyndall have shown that, although the readiness with which radiant heat escapes from equal surfaces of water and granite at the same temperature is nearly equal, yet as soon as aqueous vapour is interposed in the path of these rays, the conditions become wonderfully altered; the escape of heat from both is interrupted, but its radiation from water is retarded in by far the greatest degree. Thus the heat of the ocean being conserved, its evaporating power would be greater than it is at present, whilst the capabilities of the ice-bearers, as such, would not be perceptibly less. Moreover, it is evident that, during the whole of the cooling period, the ocean must have been receiving heat from its floor, thus acting as a carrier of warmth from the comparatively profound portions of the earth's crust to the oceanic surface. In short, during the whole cooling period, the



6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

ocean lay, as it were, in an immense evaporating pan placed over a very slow fire; and thus its cooling was protracted through a vast period, allowing sufficient time, between a temperature inimical to animal life and the commencement of the glacial epoch, to permit of the development and decay of those forms of animal life which existed in pre-glacial times.

Although we have no sufficient data for calculating the present mean temperature of the ocean, yet in lat.  $69^{\circ} 40'$ , on the coast of Norway, at noon, on a remarkably hot summer day, Professor Forbes found the temperature to be  $46.5^{\circ}$  F. The assumption of  $40^{\circ}$  F. as the mean temperature of the ocean on the coast of Norway would, therefore, probably be in excess of the truth. Now, taking the mean of the results of Dalton's experiments on the evaporation of water at different temperatures, obtained at  $35^{\circ}$  and  $45^{\circ}$ , and comparing it with the mean of his results at  $55^{\circ}$  and  $65^{\circ}$ , it would be found that an increase of  $20^{\circ}$  in the temperature of the ocean off the coast of Norway would double the evaporation from a given surface. Such an increased evaporation, accompanied, as it necessarily must be, by a corresponding precipitation, would suffice to fill the fjords and cover the western coast of that country with ice, provided that the ice-bearers were in a sufficiently effective condition. But would not the increased oceanic temperature tend to augment the mean temperature of the atmosphere even at considerable elevations, and thus raise the snow-line and reduce the area of perpetual snow? In answering this question, the lecturer showed that the limit of perpetual snow does not depend so much upon the mean temperature of the atmosphere at that particular elevation as upon the amount of snow accumulating during the cold season, or the season of minimum temperature. Thus, under the equator, the mean temperature of the snow-line is  $35^{\circ}$ ; in the Alps and Pyrenees about  $25^{\circ}$ , and in lat.  $68^{\circ}$  in Norway it is only  $21^{\circ}$ . Thus the mean temperature of the snow-line rises as we approach the equator, which means that the snow-line itself descends below its normal height owing to increased oceanic evaporation accompanied by augmented atmospheric precipitation. The deluges of rain which fall within the tropics far surpass anything of the kind in the temperate and frigid zones, and doubtless the fall of snow upon intertropical mountains is proportionately great. The important influence which the amount of precipitation exercises upon the lower limit of perpetual snow is beautifully exemplified at the fine waterfall of Tysse Strenger, near the head of the Hardanger fjord, and was first noticed by Mr. Williams. The spray from this fall is frozen in winter and covers the valley for nearly half-a-mile with a stratum of snow and ice, so thick that it defies the solar rays of summer to melt it, thus lowering the snow-line by more than 2000 feet. Professor Frankland himself has also seen in the Sör fjord, under similar abnormal conditions, a mass of snow lying in the month of August last within ten feet of the level of the sea, although the normal snow-line is there at least 4500 feet above the sea level. That the height of the snow-line is essentially dependent upon the amount of precipitation, and not upon mean temperature, is evident from a comparison of its height on the coast and in the interior of the Scandinavian peninsula, as given by Forbes in the following table, compiled partly from his own observations and partly from those of Von Buch, Naumann, and others:—

Latitude.	Height of Snow-line in Feet.		
	Coast.	Interior.	Difference.
$60^{\circ}$	5500	4450	1050
62	5200	4150	1050
64	4200	3650	550
66	3700	3250	450
68	3450	3000	450
70	3350	2900	450

Thus the difference between the height of the snow-line near the coast, where, owing to the impact of the Gulf Stream, the winter is mild but the atmospheric precipitation great, and, in the interior, where the climate is severe but the air comparatively dry, amounts in some cases to as much as 1050 feet, or nearly one-fourth of the total height. Such is the depressing effect of greater precipitation as regards the limit of perpetual snow; nor must it be forgotten that copious precipitation is altogether incompatible with great summer heat. The incessantly clouded sky cuts off the solar rays and moderates the summer temperature; and it is this phenomenon which has given rise to the trite observation that a wet summer is always a cold one. The mean temperature of the land in contiguity with such ex-

tensive surfaces of snow could also not fail to be considerably reduced; for, although the actual amount of heat in activity at the surface of the earth was greater during the glacial period than since, yet the cold of winter became stored up in masses of falling snow which, in melting, absorbed the heat of the succeeding summer and reduced both the mean and summer temperature of the land, especially of such portions of it as were not situated greatly below the snow-line. The common notion, therefore, that the glacial epoch was a cold one is correct, although heat, not cold, was the cause of that epoch. This apparent paradox that heat should be the cause of cold finds its parallel in the ice-making machines which were in operation at the last Great Exhibition. In those machines, which produced from two to twelve tons of ice per ton of coal, the glacial produce was directly proportional to the amount of heat developed by the combustion of coal.

But it is evident that this lowering of the snow-line by increased oceanic temperature could only occur within certain limits; for, although the mean temperature of the snow-line might rise from  $21^{\circ}$ , its present position in Norway, to  $35^{\circ}$ , its height under the equator, and perhaps even still higher, without any elevation of the snow-line itself, yet a further rise of mean temperature which would result from a continued augmentation of oceanic heat could not fail to elevate the snow-line itself, and eventually to chase the last portions of snow even from the loftiest mountain peaks. A process the inverse of this he believed to have gone on in nature, leading gradually to the glacial epoch, and eventually to the present meteorological condition of our globe. Whilst the ocean maintained a high temperature, the snow-line floated above the summits possibly even of the most lofty mountains; but, with the reduction of oceanic temperature, it gradually descended, enveloping peak after peak in a perennial mantle, until, during the glacial epoch, it attained its lowest depression, whence it again rose, owing to diminished evaporation, to its present position.

This hypothesis of Professor Frankland has another good point about it, for, as it comes into antagonism with no other views, so it requires no assumption of a natural convulsion, or catastrophe, or vast and sudden upheavals or depressions, or change in the relations of our earth to the sun or to space. On the contrary, *selon lui*, the glacial epoch was normally and gradually evolved from a thermal condition of the interior of our globe which can scarcely be held to be any longer the subject of controversy. This being the case, it becomes at once eminently suggestive, and renders it probable that the other bodies belonging to our solar system have either already passed through a similar epoch, or are destined still to encounter it. With the exception of the polar ice of Mars we had hitherto obtained no certain glimpse into the thermal and meteorological condition of the planets; and, indeed, the moon is the only body whose distance is not too great to prevent the visibility of comparatively minute details upon her surface. A careful observation of that surface for more than a year with a silvered glass reflector of 7 inches' aperture and of good defining power, has led Professor Frankland to believe that our satellite has, like its primary, also passed through a glacial epoch, and that several, at least, of the valleys, rills, and streaks of the lunar surface are not improbably due to former glacial action. Notwithstanding the excellent definition of modern telescopes, it could not be expected that other than the most gigantic of the characteristic details of an ancient glacier bed would be rendered visible. Under favourable circumstances the terminal moraine of a glacier attains to enormous dimensions; and, consequently, of all the marks of a glacial valley, this would be the one most likely to be first perceived. Two such terminal moraines, one of them a double one, appeared to him to be traceable upon the moon's surface. The first is situated near the termination of that remarkable streak which commences near the base of Tycho, and, passing under the south-eastern wall of Bullialdus, into the ring of which it appears to cut, is gradually lost after passing crater 216 (Lubiniezky). Exactly opposite this last, and extending nearly across the streak in question, are two ridges forming the arcs of circles whose centres are not coincident, and whose external curvature is towards the north. Beyond the second ridge a talus slopes gradually down northwards to the general level of the lunar surface, the whole presenting an appearance reminding the observer of the concentric moraines of the Rhône glacier. These ridges are visible for the whole period during which that portion of the moon's surface is illuminated; but it is only about the

third day after the first quarter, and at the corresponding phase of the waning moon, when the sun's rays, falling nearly horizontally, throw the details of this part of the surface into strong relief, that these appearances suggest this explanation of them.

The other ridge, answering to a terminal moraine, occurs at the northern extremity of that magnificent valley which runs past the eastern edge of Rheita. This ridge is nearly semi-circular, and is considerably elevated, both above the northern termination of the valley and the general surface of the moon. It may be seen about four days after new and full moon, but the position of the observer with regard to the lights and shadows renders its appearance in the rays of the rising sun by far the most striking.

With regard to the probability of former glacial, or even aqueous, agency on the surface of the moon, difficulties of an apparently very formidable character present themselves. There is not only now no evidence whatever of the presence of water, in any one of its three forms, on the lunar surface, but, on the contrary, all selenographic observations tend to prove its absence. Nevertheless, the idea of former aqueous agency in the moon has received almost universal acceptance. It was entertained by Gruithuisen and others. But, if water at one time, existed on the surface of the moon, whither has it disappeared? If we assume, in accordance with the nebular hypothesis, that the portions of matter composing respectively the earth and the moon once possessed an equally elevated temperature, it almost necessarily follows that the moon, owing to the comparative smallness of its mass, would cool much more rapidly than the earth; for, whilst the volume of the moon is only about  $\frac{1}{49}$ th, its surface is nearly  $\frac{1}{3}$ th that of the earth. This cooling of the mass of the moon must, in accordance with all analogy, have been attended with contraction, which can scarcely be conceived as occurring without the development of a cavernous structure in the interior. Much of this cavernous structure would doubtless communicate, by means of fissures, with the surface; and thus there would be provided an internal receptacle for the ocean, from the depths of which even the burning sun of the long lunar day would be totally unable to dislodge more than traces of its vapour. A globe of wax was exhibited which had been cast under water; it showed this cavernous structure in a high degree, and the water had been forced into the hollow spaces, completely filling them. Assuming the solid mass of the moon to contract on cooling at the same rate as granite, its refrigeration through only  $180^{\circ}$  F. would create cellular space equal to nearly  $14\frac{1}{2}$  millions of cubic miles, which would be more than sufficient to engulf the whole of the lunar ocean, supposing it to bear the same proportion to the mass of the moon as our own ocean bears to that of the earth.

Professor Frankland concluded his discourse by remarking that, if such be the present condition of the moon, we can scarcely avoid the conclusion that a liquid ocean can only exist upon the surface of a planet so long as the latter retains a high internal temperature. The moon, then, becomes to us a prophetic picture of the ultimate fate which awaits our earth, when, deprived of an external ocean, and of all but an annual rotation upon its axis,\* it will revolve round the sun an arid and lifeless wilderness, one hemisphere being exposed to the perpetual glare of its rays, the other shrouded in eternal night.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

WE give, as we promised last week to do, the elements and ephemeris of the newly-named planet Eurynome, the 79th of the group of minor planets:—

Epoch = 1864, Jan. 1, 0h. Greenwich mean time.

M	. . .	$1^{\circ} 31' 18.8''$	
$\pi$	. . .	$44 18 8.6$	Mean equinox, 1864, 0.
$\Omega$	. . .	$206 42 41.4$	
$i$	. . .	$4 36 47.4$	
$\phi$	. . .	$11 15 18.9$	
log. $\alpha$	. . .	0.388045	
log. $\mu$	. . .	2.967939	
$\mu$	. . .	928.836	

Ephemeris for Greenwich mean noon.

	Feb.	5	10	15	20	25	March	1	5	10
$\alpha$		2	9	18	28	37	2	47	55	3
$\mu$		0	14.7	35.4	9.3	55.2	2	52.5	53.2	6
$\delta$		8.2	10	11	11	12	13	13	13	14
$\lambda$		32	17	3	47	32	15	49	49	31
$\rho$		57	57	0	49	5	33	35	35	0

\* Mayer has recently proved that the action of the tides tends to arrest the motion of the earth upon its axis. And, although it has been proved that, since the time of Hipparchus, the length of the terrestrial day has not increased by the 1-100th part of a second, yet this fact obviously leaves untouched the conclusion to which Mayer's reasoning leads.



## SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

### ON THE FORMATION OF LAKES.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Dublin, Feb. 1, 1864.

SIR,—I have read with much interest your report of the last meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, and beg leave to make some remarks on some of the matters therein mentioned.

It may be quite true that Western Australia is not an auriferous country, but the caution given by my old friend and colleague Selwyn against drawing hasty conclusions from partial surveys is worthy of all acceptance. The Darling range about the Swan River is not all Granite, as may be seen by referring to my "Sketch of the Physical Structure of Australia," p. 62. Gneiss Mica schist, Actinolite schist, Chloritic and other schists are largely developed there, as well as Granite. The fossiliferous Upper Palæozoic rocks discovered by the Messrs. Gregory further north, and alluded to by Sir R. I. Murchison, doubtless repose on these older metamorphic rocks unconformably; and it is by no means improbable that clay slate, whether of Cambrian, Cambro-Silurian, or Silurian age may also occur beneath them in some parts of the country. As no one in reality knows anything of the cause of the occurrence of gold (or of any other metal or metallic ore), or the reasons why it should occur in one kind of rock and not in another, any rule on the subject must be merely an empirical one at present. What is found true for one district may be utterly false for another, and any anticipations as to the occurrence or non-occurrence of gold can only be treated as guesses which the event may prove to be lucky or the reverse.

Gold is still found in Wicklow, in the neighbourhood of Croaghan Kinshela, but I never could perceive any geological fact or phenomenon in that district which does not also occur in other spots in Wicklow or Wexford, where no particle of gold was ever discovered.

The whole subject of "metalliferous mineral veins" is as yet almost a *terra incognita* in Geology, and can only receive adequate treatment when our vein-miners become Geologists.

In the discussion on Captain Godwin-Austen's paper, my friend Dr. Falconer is reported to have used expressions which involve ideas on the subject of the elevation of mountain chains and the origin of valleys, to which I feel called upon to give battle à l'outrance. These expressions are "after the last upheavement of the Alps, great fissures or basins of lakes were left there, with rivers running into them." And, farther on, "precisely the same conditions occurred in the great valleys of the Himalayahs. . . these mountains were thrown up above the level of the sea, and vast perpendicular fissures were left, forming what were at that time the basins of lakes." I have no hesitation in declaring myself able to show that this hypothesis of the origin of the valleys of the Alps and Himalayahs is a physical impossibility in the first place, and, in the second, that, if I could have the pleasure of visiting any one of those valleys with Dr. Falconer, I could prove to him, by the evidence of his own senses, that the valley was formed by external erosion. In the numerous, long-continued, and often-repeated movements of disturbance and elevation that have assisted in the growth of all mountain chains; cracks and fissures, some running parallel to the axis of the chain, and others at right angles to it, and others, again, oblique to both, have doubtless been formed in abundance; dislocation of the rock masses lying between these fissures may have also taken place to any conceivable amount; but cracks and fissures are one thing, and glens, ravines, and valleys are another. The external features may or may not coincide with the internal fractures, but the two things are totally different in origin and mode of production. If the lateral valleys of a mountain chain, cutting at right angles across the general strike of the uptilted beds, were caused by internal fractures, they must have been produced after the uptilting of the beds and after the denudation had removed the continuation of those beds from off the central region of the chain. They must either have been produced by "trough faults," leaving wedge-shaped masses of rock between the uplifted parts of the chain, or they must be the mouths of fissures gaping at the surface, the sides of these fissures having been once in contact. That they are not "trough faults" is at once obvious from the tortuous nature of their courses. If they are the gaping mouths of fissures, let us consider the probable shapes of such fissures and compare them with the form of the valleys. Any one who will take the trouble to draw on a sheet of paper two

lines close together, representing a crack beneath the earth's surface, and then allow them gradually to diverge, as they range towards the surface, to any extent he can believe it possible for such a fissure to gape open, will find the angle between the lines to be little more than  $10^\circ$ .

The Lago Maggiore is from 2 to 8 miles in width; but let us suppose the fissure to have an average width of 3 miles at the surface; if its sides converge at an angle of  $10^\circ$  only, they will reach a depth of about 17 miles before they touch. If we allow such a fissure to gape, even at an angle of  $20^\circ$ , it will be nearly 8½ miles deep. In other words, such fissures must commence to gape at a depth of 40,000 or 50,000 feet at least, and some of them at 100,000 feet from the surface. We might well expect, as Mr. Darwin says, the "very bowels of the earth to gush out" from such openings.

But, as a matter of fact, none of the valleys have, or ever had, anything like such depths; and, wherever we can find the bottoms of them uncovered by water or detritus, we find the beds of rock stretching across them from side to side, the width of the bottom being often as great as the height of the sides, and the excavation terminating suddenly and completely below. We can often trace a highly inclined bed, or group of beds, coming down one side of a valley or ravine, running across the bottom of it and up the opposite side without the slightest appearance of any fracture or dislocation in the beds in the bottom of the valley. I believe that this could be done in every transverse valley—that is, every one that runs across the strike of the beds, in some part or other of its course; and one such instance is sufficient to disprove the hypothesis of a gaping fissure in each case.

All longitudinal valleys can be shown, in like manner, to have no direct connexion with internal disturbances, most of them running along the softest or most soluble beds; all valleys of both kinds being due to the external action of atmospheric erosion.

I have said nothing about ice in the foregoing remarks, but Dr. Falconer calls in the agency of ice as having prevented the filling up of the lakes on the flanks of the Alps, while he supposes its absence to have been the reason of the filling up of the lakes which he *supposes* once to have existed along the foot of the Himalayahs. I think my colleague, Professor Ramsay, might fairly call on Dr. Falconer to prove the existence of these Indian lakes before he proceeds to fill them up. Dr. Falconer acknowledges that, both on the north side of the Himalayahs, and on both sides of the Alps, where the ice once existed the lakes now exist, and that the former existence of the ice is the cause of the present existence of the lakes. To my mind, this is strong evidence in favour of Ramsay's hypothesis, for I see no reason whatever to believe in the former existence of the lakes where we know there never was any ice.

The bottoms of the Indian valleys may often be occupied by wide alluvial flats, but such features are no proof of the former existence of lakes beneath them, being only the ordinary accompaniment of river action in the excavation of valleys.

The more I have considered Ramsay's hypothesis of the glacier-formation of the rock basins which form the beds of many lakes, the more I am compelled to look on it as the only mode of escape out of a great difficulty. The lakes of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and many of the Irish lakes, I feel certain, were formed in this way. Others, however, have, I believe, been formed in other ways, some, as suggested by Sir C. Lyell, by the uplifting of the ground in the lower part of a valley, and the consequent damming of the water in the upper part. Others, in limestone countries, like those in the central part of Ireland, have been formed by the solution of the rock, with or without the falling in of the roofs of caverns over the formerly subterranean courses of the rivers. Some may doubtless in some countries have been formed by the solution of rock salt. But none anywhere, except in volcanic districts, have been produced by the direct action of internal force, any more than any other of the external features of the ground have been so produced, except volcanic cones and craters.

Two papers, written by my friend Mr. John Ball, have appeared in the *Philosophical Magazine* on the origin of the Alpine lakes and valleys which I have long been wishing to answer at length, but have never yet got leisure to do so. Let me beg him, should he chance to see these lines, or any one else who wishes to discuss the question of the origin of valleys, to draw sections across them on the true scale—i.e., the same for height as for

THE Royal Horticultural Society, in order to foster the study of scientific botany, have offered the following prizes for botanical collections:—1. One silver and two bronze medals for the three best collections of dried wild plants of each separate county, classified according to the natural system; 2. Three gold medals for the best three of all the collections out of all the several county collections. The collections must be arranged according to any natural method, and be accompanied by a list arranged according to the same method with the species numbered. The collector to follow some work on British Botany, such as that of Babington, Hooker, and Arnott, or Bentham, and to state the work which he adopts. The collections must be delivered on or before 31st December, 1864, to the Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society, to whom we must refer intending competitors for further particulars. A Society's gold medal will also be awarded to every exhibitor of a new species of plant found growing in the United Kingdom.

WE regret to announce the death, on the 20th ultimo, of Baron Plana, the illustrious mathematician and Director of the Observatory of Turin. This indefatigable *savant*, who had reached the ripe age of eighty-three, appears to have continued his labours to the last, having only recently read before the Academy at Turin a memoir "On the Law of Cooling of Spherical Bodies, and on the Expression of the Solar Heat in the Circumpolar Latitudes of the Earth."

WE have another death to chronicle, that of Heinrich Rose, which took place at Berlin on the 28th ultimo, at the age of sixty-nine, after having filled the Chair of Chemistry at the University there for more than forty years. His family has for three generations held a foremost place in the annals of chemistry. His grandfather, Valentine Rose, the friend and contemporary of Marggraf, is known as the discoverer of the metallic alloy which melts at a temperature a little below that of boiling water. Valentine Rose, the son of the above, was the originator of the method of decomposing the alkaline silicate by means of nitrate of baryta, which is, however, generally attributed to Klaproth. He was also the inventor of a method for the detection of arsenic in cases of poisoning. Heinrich, the son of Valentine Rose the younger, whose death we have now to deplore, studied pharmacy in Berlin, and in 1819 went to Stockholm, where he became a pupil of Berzelius. He afterwards removed to Kiel, where he graduated in 1821. In 1823 he accepted the position of Extraordinary Professor of Chemistry at Berlin, and twelve years afterwards he became Ordinary Professor at the same place. His researches have proved of the greatest value to that science of which he was so distinguished a student, and they have contributed perhaps more than those of any other philosopher to the advancement of our knowledge in the department of inorganic chemistry. He will be better remembered as an exact experimenter than as a propounder of new theories. As an author he is best known by his valuable work on chemical analysis, but he was also an industrious contributor to *Poggendorff's Annalen*, in nearly every volume of which his name appears. It is in this work that an account of nearly the whole of his numerous researches and discoveries is to be found.

DR. J. L. SCHÖNLEIN, the celebrated German physician, died on the 23rd ult. at Bamberg, where he was born on the 30th of November, 1793. He studied medicine at the University of Würzburg, where for some years he was clinical lecturer. He removed to Zürich in 1833, and in 1840 became professor of pathology and therapeutics in Berlin, where he obtained a very high rank in his profession.

THE following is a list of the prize-subjects of the Belgian Academy of Sciences for the present year:—(1.) "The determination of the relative advantages of geometrical and analytical methods." (2.) "The deduction from observed facts of the probable theory of shooting-stars." (3.) "The essential constituents of steel and the cause of the individual properties possessed by steel of different kinds." (4.) "The method of development of *Petromyzon Marinus*, *Petromyzon fluviatilis*, *Amphioxus lanceolatus*, or of eels." (5.) "The Belgian colliery system."—The prize for the best essay on each of these subjects is a gold medal of the value of 600 francs, and to the third of these a premium of 800 francs has been added by the Minister of the Interior. The essays may be written either in Latin, French, or Flemish, and they must be deposited with the Perpetual Secretary, M. Ad. Quetelet, before the 24th of September, 1864.



# THE READER.

6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

length. Whoever does so will find, by simple inspection, how impossible it is to entertain this hypothesis of the gaping of the earth's surface to produce such external features as he will then have before him. J. BEETE JUKES.

## SECULAR COOLING OF THE EARTH.

To the Editor of THE READER.

SIR,—I write a line in the hope of soliciting from yourself, or some of your scientific readers, an explanation of the remarkable discrepancy in the results, as I understand them, arrived at by the Rev. Professor Haughton and Professor W. Thomson on the geological periods involved in the cooling of the earth.

In the report given in your last number but one of the Rev. Professor Haughton's paper before the Geological Society of Dublin, he is stated to have arrived at the period of 1,280,000,000 years as the time which elapsed while the earth cooled from 122° F. to 77° F., these temperatures being taken as defining the periods of the first appearance of life on the earth and of the London clay respectively. This calculation is stated to be based upon a previous one by Professor Helmholtz, that the time which a globe of basalt of the size of the earth would take to cool from 2000° C. to 200° C. would be 350,000,000 years.

Very different is the calculation made by Professor W. Thomson in his most ingenious paper "On the Secular Cooling of the Earth" (*Trans. Royal Society Edin.*, vol. xxiii. part 1). The question he undertakes to solve is this:—In what period would a body consisting of materials such as the earth consists of pass from a condition of first solidification to one in which the law of increase of temperature in descending from its surface downwards is in accordance with that observed in the earth. Taking the temperature of melting rock to be from 10,000° F. to 7000° F. (which is higher than the temperature assigned to melting Basalt), and assuming the rate of increase of temperature near the surface to be  $\frac{1}{100}$ ° F. per foot, allowing for great variation in the result on account of our ignorance "as to the effects of high temperature in altering the conductiveness and specific heats of rocks, and as to their latent heat of fusion," the Professor comes to the conclusion that "we may say, with much probability, that the consolidation cannot have taken place less than 20,000,000 years ago, or we should have more underground heat than we actually have; nor more than 400,000,000 years ago, or we should not have so much as the least-observed underground increase of temperature. That is to say, that Leibnitz's epoch of 'emergence' of the 'consistentior status' was probably between those dates;" and, using the temperature of 7000° F. as that of melting rock, he inclines to 98,000,000 of years as a probable estimate. Compare these modest numbers, to express the ages since the earth was an incandescent, though solid, sphere, with Professor Haughton's 1,280,000,000 years as giving the period between the first existence of life and the London clay!

It is obvious that in the present state of geology these questions exceed all others in interest. What opinion are the less learned to form when our first mathematicians thus differ in their results? Possibly Professor Haughton may have referred to Professor Thomson's paper, and given his reasons for differing from his conclusions. If that was the case, no doubt many would thank the Editor of THE READER for putting them in possession of the gist of the arguments that he adduced.—I am, Sir, &c., O. F.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Trinity College, Dublin, Jan. 29, 1864.

SIR,—In the report of some remarks which I offered at a late meeting of the Geological Society of Dublin, published in THE READER for January 23rd, 1864, a terrible mistake occurs, for which I will not say that I am not responsible, addressing the Society at a moment's notice, as I did, without a thought of preparation, and merely wishing to impress an idea upon the meeting. Of course the time estimated for a ray of light to reach this planet from the star *Alpha Centauri* is about three years; and from *Sirius*, or from 61 *Cygni*, about ten years. Well, then, to carry on the parallel between the distances of time and space which I sought to establish, let us suppose that the distance in space from *Alpha Centauri* represented the distance in time from the latest Pliocene deposit, that of *Sirius* might perhaps be carried back to that of the Wealden, and the rest may remain pretty much as I ventured to apporportion. Of course mathematical accuracy is out of the question; and my object was simply to fling

forth an idea. I did not assent at all to my friend Professor Haughton's notion, founded on the degree of heat which coagulates albumen, because I have experienced a higher temperature in *propria persona*; to say nothing of what Sturt underwent in Central Australia, where, nevertheless, certain animals were in their indigenous form, as sundry parrots and ground-pigeons in the class of birds; and we have heard something of the temperature at which fishes exist in thermal springs, and also of experiments wherein man (*i.e.*, the living animal) merely perspired profusely while meat was cooked and eggs also, which quite settled the question about the coagulation of albumen.—Yours respectfully,

E. BLYTH.

P. S.—Anent *Strongyloceros spelæus*, for "bones" read *horns*.

## THE COMET.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Mr. Barclay's Observatory, Leighton, N.E., February 1.

SIR,—We must wait for observations more exact, and extending over a greater interval, to prove the periodicity of the comet now visible. In the meantime I may remark that, although the different orbits calculated by Mr. Weiss, Mr. Peters, Professor Steimpfer, and myself agree very well, the ephemerides calculated from them are far from giving the place of the comet with exactness, owing to the very near approach of the comet to the earth and its very quick geocentric motion. Still the comet is to be found by sweeping a little round the place where the calculation puts it. On January 24th I fancied some elongation of the shape of the nucleus, which teased me somewhat, as the comet was then just past its lower culmination and near to the horizon, and the moonlight prevented a close scrutiny. On January 29th it was remarkably clear, and I watched the comet during several hours. It exhibited then the same sharp nucleus, being of mag. 7, and faint tail, but the elongation turned out to be a little streamer leaving the nucleus in the direction nearly opposite to the tail. As my principal object was to secure good and exact observations of this, perhaps remarkable, comet, I watched the phenomenon only occasionally. Comparing the direction of this little faint streamer with that of the tail, it appeared to vary. I estimated the angle between both, at 7 o'clock mean time, to be about 150°; at 12 o'clock, about 170°. The whole image was a little confused, and will become more so as the comet's distance from the sun increases. On January 31st I had a short look at the comet and found the streamer nearly opposite the tail. It is a pity that the comet's perihelion occurred where it did, as, had it been discovered before, its exceedingly interesting phenomena might have been better watched. It will be a pity, too, if the state of weather should prevent us from observing it as long as possible, for, with regard to its periodicity, we depend, as you rightly stated, only on this year's observations. The comet, of course, is seen through a great arc of its geocentric motion, extending over about eleven hours in right ascension, but its *heliocentric* motion is comparatively small.

The comet, when discovered by Pons on August 22nd, was observed only from August 29th to September 21st, and with great uncertainty. I am not aware yet whether it was seen at all by any other astronomer.

Should I be able to finish some interesting calculations I have in hand, I shall be glad to communicate them to you. I am anxious to know whether the little faint streamer was seen elsewhere. My observation, with power 20 and 10 inches' aperture, was confirmed by Mr. T. G. Barclay's sharp eye.—I am, &c., H. ROMBERG.

P.S.—From a letter of Mr. Hind's I learn that he followed the tail to about 2° in a comet-seeker on January 30. I could follow it here only to 30' with the large refractor, though under a high power.

New Haven, Conn., Jan. 16, 1864.

The following announcement of the discovery of a new comet was received this day:—

Observatory, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1864, Jan. 13.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the pleasure to inform you that I discovered a new comet on the evening of Saturday, Jan. 9th, at 6½ o'clock. I have observed the following accurate positions:—

Ann Arbor M. T.	Comet— $\alpha$ .	Comet— $\delta$ .
1864, Jan. 10, 6h 57m 7s	19h 14m 3s 37	+34° 6' 5" 9
11, 6 18 57	19 17 15 31	34 52 52 2
12, 6 5 51	19 20 53 35	35 42 47 0

From these places I have derived the following elements of the orbit:—

T=1863, Dec. 27.1413 Washington M. T.  
 $\pi=60^{\circ} 17' 39'' 0$  App. equinox, Jan. 11th.  
 $\Omega=304 40 49 0$   
 $i=63 55 38 5$   
 $\log q=9.885810$   
 Motion direct.

The comparison of the middle place gives:—

$$\Delta \alpha \cos \beta = -2'' 9 \quad \Delta \delta = -15'' 0$$

The comet is large and bright, with a tail  $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  in length, and a nucleus strongly condensed at the centre.

The above elements almost exactly resemble those of the comet of 1810, so that there can be very little doubt of the identity of the two comets. Whether this is the first return to the perihelion since 1810, or whether it has returned several times unperceived, must be decided by subsequent observations.—Very truly yours, JAMES C. WATSON.  
 [We are indebted to Messrs. Silliman and Dana for this comet circular, which has been issued as a supplement to their Journal for January.]

## PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN ACADEMIES.

PARIS.

Académie des Sciences, Jan. 25.—The following papers were read:—Orsian Bonnet—"On the Demonstration of Gauss's theorem relative to small Geodesic Triangles situated on any curved surface." Pouchet—"Observations on the Snow of the Summit of Mont Blanc, and of other high points of the Alps." Schnepf—"On the Production, Preservation, and Commerce of Animal Food at La Plata." Auphan—"On a Recent Operation in Ovariectomy performed at Alais." Gouriet—"On the Locomotion of Fishes." Demarquay and Leconte—"Researches on Oxygen from a Physiological and Therapeutic point of view;" "On the Action of Oxygen upon Animals." Leudet—"On Sporadic Pellagra observed at Rouen in 1863" (presented by M. Rayer). Renaud—"Hypothesis of Universal Gravitation" (presented by M. de Quatrefages). Potier—"On the common cause of White Tumours, Scrofulous Affections, Gout, &c." Casorati—"Upon Functions with Multiple Periods." De Caligny—"Result of his Experiments on a new system of Canal Locks." Van Tieghem—"On Ammoniacal Fermentation." Reboul—"On Valerylène, a new Homologue of Acetylene." Maumené—"On the question: Is Wine the Result of the Action of a single Fermentation?" Moreau—"On the Variation of the Proportion of Oxygen in the Natatory Vessel of Fishes." Freytag—"On the Calculation of Sines."

The Perpetual Secretary then executed the last commission entrusted to him by M. Plana, in laying before the Academy a memoir on "The Law of Cooling of Spherical Bodies and the Expression of Solar Heat in the Circumpolar Latitudes of the Earth." M. Pristler of Gradisca, Illyria, has forwarded, through the Counsellor of the Austrian Embassy, a memoir, written in Italian, intended for the competition for the Bréant Legacy Prize. The Perpetual Secretary mentioned, among the printed correspondence, the sixth number of M. Alb. Gaudry's work entitled "Fossil Animals and Geology of Attica." MM. Pouchet, Joly, and Musset returned thanks for the commission formed to witness a repetition of their experiments in

M. Parade was elected correspondent of the Section of Rural Economy in place of the late M. Renault. M. Guérin-Meneville requested to be included among the candidates for the vacant place in the Section of Rural Economy.

VIENNA.

K. K. Akademie der Wissenschaften, Jan. 8. *Mathematico-Physical Section*.—HERR HAIDINGER gave an account of the meteorite observed in Greece on the 18th October last. According to the report transmitted by Herr Schmidt, the Director of the Observatory at Athens, the course of this meteorite was from Canea in Candia to Cerigo and Elaphonisi, and thence westward of Sparta to the coast of the Morea near the river Neda. Its passage was accompanied by a noise like the report of a cannon, and was followed by a shower of aeroliths. Herr Haidinger agrees with the best observers that falling stars, bolides, and aeroliths belong to the same class of phenomena. Herr Wiesener presented a treatise on the destruction of wood in contact with the atmosphere.

*Philosophico-Historical Section*, Jan. 20. Dr. Ferdinand Wolf presented a paper "On some old French Minne Doctrines and Allegories."—After referring to the relation, either of cause or effect, between chivalry and the worship of the



6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

Virgin Mary, the author proceeds to show how, in the fourteenth century, a philosophy founded on devotion to women grew out of the love-songs of the preceding century. The three manuscripts which form the immediate subject of Dr. Wolf's communication illustrate the love-philosophy referred to; they are from the library of the Emperor of Austria, and date from the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. A full account of them, with extracts, will be given when Dr. Wolf's paper is published in the Academy's memoirs.

## LEARNED SOCIETIES.

**Royal Society, Jan. 21.** Major-General Sabine, President, in the chair.—“A DESCRIPTION of the Pneumogastric and Great Sympathetic Nerves in an Acephalous Fœtus.” By Robert James Lee, Esq., B.A. Communicated by Robert Lee, M.D.—The author observes that hitherto no account has been given of the origin and distribution of the par vagum or pneumogastric nerve in any instance of a fœtus born with brain entirely or partially wanting. This reason has been thought sufficient for communicating to the Royal Society the description of a dissection of the pneumogastric and sympathetic nerves in a fœtus born at the full period, in which the cerebellum and medulla oblongata were absent. At the time of birth it cried, moved, and for the space of one hour might be said to live. All the thoracic and abdominal viscera were found properly formed, and the upper and lower extremities properly developed. The eyes, nose, and mouth were present. The head, when regarded as a whole, seemed as though the posterior and superior parts had been entirely removed, thus leaving the spinal cord and base of the skull exposed. Some tough cerebral matter, covered only by a dense membrane, was seen in two small masses exposed in the cranium, not continuous with the spinal cord, which terminated abruptly at the base of the cranium, and was entirely exposed at this point, but separated from it by a bony prominence arising from the floor of the cranial cavity. The dissection is described in the paper.

Since the foregoing paper was communicated, the author has had the opportunity of examining two more anencephalous fœtuses. The second of these dissections bore some resemblance to the fœtus described in the paper, with the exception that there was no trace of cerebral matter whatever. The author expects to be afforded further means of prosecuting his dissections of the nerves of acephalous monsters, in which case he will communicate the results of his examinations to the Royal Society.

“On a Perfect Musical Scale,” by Mr. Ellis.—In order to express all shades of musical sounds with perfect accuracy, the author has strictly limited the old notation, and introduced a few additional symbols. He uses a letter, as *C*, called a note, to represent a musical tone and its pitch, or its number of double vibrations in one second. The pitch of *C* being fixed arbitrarily, *D*, *E*, *F*, *G*, *A*, *B* represent such tones that  $D = \frac{9}{8}C$ ,  $E = \frac{6}{5}C$ ,  $F = \frac{4}{3}C$ ,  $G = \frac{3}{2}C$ ,  $A = \frac{5}{4}C$ ,  $B = \frac{3}{2}C$ .

The following symbols always represent the fractions, and are called by the names written against them:—

1. Following a note, in type, but preceding it on the staff,  $\sharp = \frac{9}{8}$  = sharp;  $\flat = \frac{4}{3}$  = flat;  $\times = \sharp\sharp$  = double sharp.
2. Preceding a note in all cases:  $\acute{=} = \frac{3}{2}$  = acute, or comma;  $\grave{=} = \frac{2}{3}$  = grave, or hypocomma;  $\text{sch} = \frac{3}{2}\frac{2}{3}$  = schisma;  $\text{hypo} = \frac{2}{3}\frac{3}{2}$  = hyposchisma;  $\parallel$ , read “equal” shows that the tone is equally tempered.

Three notes in capital letters signify a major chord, as *CEG*; three notes in small letters signify a minor chord, as *ace*; the pitches in the first being as 4, 5, 6; and, in the second, as 10, 12, 15; or as these numbers multiplied by any power of 2. The three notes in this order are termed the first, second, and third of the chord. Tones whose pitches are as 3:2, 5:4, 6:5 form perfect fifths, major and minor thirds respectively, as *GC*, *EC*, *GE*. Major and minor chords having the same major third are *relative*, but, having the same fifth, are *synonymous*. Major or minor chords having the fifth of one the same as the first of the other are *dominative*. Three dominative chords, major or minor, or mixed (as *FAC*, *CEG*, *GBD*; or *fabc*, *cebg*, *gbbd*; or *fabc*, *cebg*, *GBD*; or *FAC*, *cebg*, *GBD*, &c.), contain seven tones, which, when taken within the compass of the same octave, form a musical scale.

If seventeen dominative major chords be taken, as those of which the first tones are  $\sharp F\flat$ ,  $\sharp C\flat$ ,  $\sharp G\flat$ ,  $\sharp D\flat$ ,  $A\flat$ ,  $E\flat$ ,  $B\flat$ , *F*, *C*, *G*, *D*,  $\sharp A$ ,  $\sharp E$ ,  $\sharp B$ ,  $\sharp F\sharp$ ,  $\sharp C\sharp$ ,  $\sharp G\sharp$ , and for each major chord, as *CEG*, we take the relative minor (as *ace*), its synonymous major (as  $A\sharp C\sharp E$ ), and the relative minor of this last (as  $\sharp f\sharp a\sharp c\sharp$ ); and, again, take the synonymous minor of the first major (as *cebg*), and its relative major (as  $\sharp Eb\sharp G\sharp B\sharp$ ), we obtain  $6 \times 17 = 102$  chords, which contain 72 different tones to the octave, and are all those employed in music. These may be played on a harmonium with 14 manuals to the octave (a red manual being inserted in the gaps between *B* and *C*, and between *E* and *F*, because the ordinary equally tempered scale has only 12 tones to the octave), which, representing the seven tones of a major scale by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, would, in any key, be tuned as follows:—

## COLOURED.

$\sharp 1\sharp$   $\sharp 2$   $\sharp 3\flat$   $\sharp 4\sharp$   $\sharp 5\sharp$   $\sharp 6\flat$   $\sharp 7\flat$

## WHITE.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
The values of the manuals would be changed by means of 15 stops, so that the fingering would be the same in all keys.

To reduce the number of required tones, notes which differ by a schisma may be used for each other. By this means the number of tones in an octave is reduced to 45, and may be played on an organ with three finger-boards, like that of Gen. T. Perronet Thompson.

As concertinas contain 14 manuals to the octave, they may be tuned to perfect intervals in certain keys; so that most music might be played perfectly by means of four such concertinas. The following arrangement, which has been for some time in practical use, plays perfectly in *F*, *C*, *G*, *E* major, and *a*, *e* minor; very nearly so in *A* major and  $\sharp d$  minor, but not quite so well in *D* major:—

## BLACK MANUALS.

$\sharp c\sharp$  *d*  $\sharp d\sharp$   $\sharp f\sharp$   $\sharp g\sharp$   $\sharp a$  *bb*

## WHITE MANUALS.

*C*  $\sharp D$  *E* *F* *G* *A* *B*

Tune *CE*,  $E\sharp G\sharp$  as perfect major thirds, and the other tones by perfect fifths, as  $B\flat F$ ,  $FC$ ,  $CG$ ,  $GD$ ,  $D\sharp A$ ;  $\sharp DA$ ,  $AE$ ,  $EB$ ,  $BF\sharp$ ;  $\sharp C\sharp\sharp G\sharp$ ,  $\sharp G\sharp\sharp D\sharp$ . The larger instruments are tuned in a similar manner. All instruments playing perfect intervals are called *teleon* (τέλεον διάστημα, a perfect interval).

Jan. 28. Major-General Sabine in the chair.—Professor Huxley presented the first part of his detailed description of the osteology of the genus *Glyptodon*, the salient characteristics of which were communicated by him on a former occasion.

“On the Great Storm of December 3, 1863, as recorded by the Self-registering Instruments at the Liverpool Observatory.” By John Hartnup, F.R.A.S., Director of the Observatory. Communicated by General Sabine, P.R.S.—This paper was descriptive of an elaborate diagram (deposited for reference in the archives of the Royal Society) exhibiting the strength and direction of the wind, the height of the barometer, and the rain-fall for three days preceding, two days following, and during the great storm of December 3, 1863, as recorded by the self-registering instruments at the Liverpool Observatory. The barometer tracing is a facsimile of the original record produced by King's self-registering barometer, the force and direction of the wind and the rain-fall have been taken from the sheets of Osler's anemometer and rain-gauge; the time-scale for the anemometer has been slightly increased, to adapt it to that of the barometer, and the scale of wind pressure for each five pounds has been made uniform instead of leaving the spaces greater or less according to the strength of the springs, as in the original record. The tracings of the recording pencils for the direction of the wind and the rain-fall are faithfully represented; but it is scarcely possible to copy the delicate shadings and every gust recorded on the original sheets by the pencil which registers the force of the wind; all the heavy pressures are, however, correctly represented. Figures at the bottom of the diagram show the readings of the dry and wet bulb thermometers and the maximum and minimum thermometers as recorded at the Observatory during the six days. Most notable among the phenomena was a wind pressure of 43 lbs. recorded by the pressure-plate.

This gave rise to a discussion in which the comparative merits of the anemometers in use were canvassed. The President also pointed out the

desirability of the addition of a cup anemometer and Thomson's self-recording electrometer to the Liverpool Observatory.

“On the Criterion of Resolubility in Integral Numbers of the Indeterminate Equation

$$f = ax^2 + a'x'^2 + a''x''^2 + 2bx'x'' + 2b'xx'' + 2b''x''x = 0.”$$

By H. J. Stephen Smith, M.A., F.R.S., Savilian Professor of Geometry in the University of Oxford. Received January 20, 1864.—Considering the case in which *f* is an indefinite form of a determinant different from zero, Professor Smith enumerates a theorem which includes those of Legendre and Gauss on the resolubility of equations of the form  $ax^2 + a'x'^2 + a''x''^2 = 0$  (Legendre, “Théorie des Nombres,” vol. i. p. 47; Gauss, “Disq. Arith.,” arts. 294, 295, and 298). It is equally applicable, whether the coefficients and indeterminates of *f* are real integers, or complex integers of the type  $p + qi$ .

**Geological Society, Jan. 20.** Professor A. C. Ramsay, President, in the chair. J. S. Crossley, Esq., M.Inst. C.E., the Rev. H. Housman, C. Macrae, Esq., W. R. Barr, Esq., E. J. Routh, Esq., M.A., George St. Clair, Esq., J. B. Stone, Esq., and Mutu Coomara Swamy, Esq., Member of H.M. Legislative Council of Ceylon, were elected Fellows. Il Cavaliere Paolo Savi, Professor of Geology in the University of Pisa, was elected a Foreign Member.—The following communications were read:—

1. “Observations on supposed Glacial Drift in the Labrador Peninsula, Western Canada, and on the South Branch of the Saskatchewan.” By Professor H. Y. Hind, M.A., F.R.G.S., Trinity College, Toronto.—During an exploration of a part of the interior of the Labrador peninsula, in 1861, the author had an opportunity of observing the magnitude, distribution, and extraordinary number of the boulders on the flanks of the tableland of that area, and he commenced this paper with a detailed account of the results of his observations, referring also to the forced arrangement of blocks of limestone, shale, and Laurentian rocks in unstratified boulder-clay at Toronto, and on the south branch of the Saskatchewan.

Professor Hind then described briefly the Driftless Area in Wisconsin, discovered by Professor J. D. Whitney, and the conclusions to which that geologist has been led by the study of this district. He next adverted to the beaches and terraces about the great Canadian lakes, and considered their origin to be similar to that suggested by Mr. Jamieson for the Parallel Roads of Glen Roy. The formation of anchor-ice in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and at the heads of rapids in the great river itself was alluded to as one of the means by which river-beds may be excavated. The parallelism of escarpments in America, at great distances apart, many hundred miles long, and at elevations varying from 600 feet to 3000 feet above the sea, was next described, and their symmetrical arrangement suggested to be the result of glacial rivers undermining the soft strata of sedimentary rocks in advance of the glacial mass itself. These escarpments were also thought to represent different and closely succeeding glacial epochs, and their general direction was shown to approach that of the isothermal curves in the same latitudes in North America. The escarpments mentioned were three in number:—1st, The Grand Coteau de Missouri, which extended from the 47th parallel of latitude to beyond the 54th, and was from 1600 feet to 3000 feet above the sea-level, and from 400 to 600 feet above the prairie slope. The 2nd escarpment was that of the Riding, Duck, and Porcupine Mountains, west of Lake Winnipeg. These escarpments are from 1400 to 2000 feet above the sea, extend from south of the 48th to north of the 53rd parallel, and have a sheer precipitous altitude, exceeding in some parts, as on the Riding and Duck Mountains, 800 to 1000 feet above the swampy plain. All the escarpments, and those of outlying hills west of Lake Winnipeg, with the single exception of the Cyprès Hills, near the Rocky Mountains, face the north-east or north, and on the west side they are gently terraced. The third escarpment mentioned was the well-known Niagara escarpment, which was 600 feet above the sea at the head of Lake Ontario, and rose to 1400 feet above the same level on Lake Huron. The three escarpments mentioned, which run roughly parallel to one another, have all been, more or less, affected by aqueous denudation, especially the lower portion of the Niagara escarpment; but the agent which first gave them form was stated to be glacial ice, and the general direction of the advance of the glacial mass was thought to have been at right angles, or nearly so, to the face of the escarpment. In intimate connexion with the formation of escarpments was



6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

the excavation of the great lakes of the St. Lawrence and Winnipeg basins, which were stated to be due to the action of glacial masses like those now covering Greenland. Professor Hind took occasion to point out where he had advocated this view of the origin of the basins of the Great Lakes in his report on the Assemuboino and Saskatchewan Expedition, published in 1859; and also his view of the origin of the great American escarpments by means of ice, in his narrative of the Canadian Expeditions, published by Longman in 1860. He also showed how different American geologists, together with Sir Wm. Logan, were now in favour of this opinion, that, in the excavation of the basins of the great American lakes, the action of ice is plainly manifest, and that it bore a prominent part in the formation of their basins.

2. "Notes on the Drift-deposits of the Valley of the Severn, in the neighbourhood of Coalbrookdale and Bridgenorth." By George Maw, Esq., F.S.A., F.L.S. Communicated by Sir Charles Lyell, F.R.S., F.P.G.S.—The patches of Drift occurring in the Valley of the Severn from about four miles below Bridgenorth up to Shrewsbury, including a north and south range of about twenty miles, have been carefully examined by the author, and were described in detail in this paper. Commencing with Stretthill, a hill close to the entrance of Coalbrookdale, the author described the several beds which make up the drift-deposits of which it is composed, and gave a list of the rocks which he found in them. In the same manner he described in succession the neighbouring districts in which the drift-deposits are exhibited, and gave a list of the fossils which had been found in the beds at the different localities. In conclusion Mr. Maw put forward some hypotheses as to the period when the degradation of the older formations (the materials of which compose the drift) took place, the manner in which the drift was deposited, the extent of the submergence of England and Wales during the period of its deposition, and the influence of glaciers and glacier-action in its production.

Geographical Society, Jan. 25. Sir R. Murchison, President, in the chair.—THE President, before proceeding to the business of the evening, said he felt it his duty to say a word or two upon the most distressing intelligence which had appeared in some of the papers regarding the fate of his eminent, dear, and distinguished friend Dr. Livingstone. If he had felt persuaded that Dr. Livingstone had lost his life, he should, from his deep affection for him, have been incapable of speaking upon the subject. He had great hopes that he had only received a severe wound in the foot and had escaped, though the Makololos with him might have been slain. The *South African Advertiser*, which he held in his hand, contained a letter from Dr. Livingstone himself. Having received his recall, he was still anxious to do something more before he left the country, and he accordingly determined upon a visit to Lake Nyassa, in the hope of discovering the source of the river Shirra. He started without any of his former assistants, taking with him only five of the Makololo nation—a people whom he knew to be particularly attached to himself, and on whom he could depend. In the letter alluded to he said, "I take Makololo with me, the only reliable fellows in the country;" and he added, "if we could have stopped the enormous slave-trade of Lake Nyassa I would gladly have spent all the money I ever received." These were the sentiments that he expressed when going on this expedition. The nature of the disaster which had befallen him was gathered from a communication stating that the *Ariel* had brought intelligence from Simon's Bay that Dr. Livingstone had received a wound in the foot when landing at some point in the interior. There was a subsequent despatch headed "Massacre of Dr. Livingstone and all his party;" but he sincerely hoped that this was an exaggeration, and that the extent of his disaster was the wound in the foot. The natives of that part of the country certainly hated the Makololo, and it was possible they might have killed them but have spared him.

The first paper was then read, being a "Narrative of the Expedition of Mr. Lefroy, Superintendent of Convicts, eastward from Perth, West Australia," after which two communications were read on the Interior of Otago Province, Middle Island, New Zealand. In the course of the discussion,

Mr. Harper, son of the Bishop of Canterbury, N.Z., described a journey he made in 1857, in company with a few natives from Canterbury, across the island to the west coast, and thence

down to Jackson Bay. He crossed the great dividing ridge which cuts through the centre of the island, and from the summit he could trace the rivers, which went off in opposite directions—the Hurunui to the eastward, and the Teramakau to the westward. He gave some account of the hardships they encountered owing to the failure of their provisions, which they had to carry on their backs, and to the difficulty of getting across the rivers. He stated that the west coast of the island consists of a long sandy beach, without any harbour indenting it, and that the interior is covered with dense forest right up to the mountains. In the south-west part of the island there was a harbour called Milford Haven, and the coast there was indented with deep fiords like those of Norway.

The concluding paper of the evening was an "Account of the Ascent of the Moisie River, Labrador," by Professor H. Y. Hind of Toronto, who, on the conclusion of the paper, exhibited, at the request of the President, a number of stone tobacco-pipes obtained from different nations of Indians hunting between the Rocky Mountains and the Atlantic coast of Labrador—a distance of 3000 miles—and explained that each nation had its peculiar form of pipe, which rarely varied. A certain type of pipe is used by the Chipewyans, whose hunting-grounds lie to the north of those belonging to the wide-spread Cree nation. The Crees have a type of pipe peculiar to themselves; and the form of those used by the Plain Crees at the foot of the Rocky Mountains is almost identical with the pipes of another branch of the same people, the Nasquapees of the table-land of the Labrador Peninsula, 3000 miles off. The Ojibways, whose hunting-grounds lie to the south of the country inhabited by the Crees, have also a very distinct and well-marked form of stone pipe, which enables any one conversant with the customs of Indians to recognise as characteristic of the Ojibway people. It was suggested that, if these peculiarities in the form of the stone pipes in use by different Indian nations in their natural state, should be found to be constant, it might form a valuable means in the hands of the archaeologist of arriving at some clue respecting the "mound-builders" of the Mississippi and St. Lawrence valleys and elsewhere, where primitive nations were in the habit of placing with their dead the articles they had most valued during life. Professor Hind also called attention to the existence of several lakes in North American territory having two outlets, the Trout Lake, the Prairie Portage Lake, the Q'Appelle Lake, and the Back-Fat Lakes; three of these he had passed through himself, and the fourth he had seen from the summit of a mountain.

The President remarked that this was an important point, because a doubt had been thrown upon the statement by Captain Speke that there were two outlets from Lake Nyanza.

Captain Speke said he had certainly only seen one of the outlets of Lake Nyanza, but he had heard there were no less than four, and he had no reason to doubt the accuracy of the statement.

Brig-General Lefroy also mentioned the case of the Jasper Lake, or Punch Bowl, in the Rocky Mountains, which had two outlets—one flowing into the Pacific and the other into Hudson's Bay.

Meteorological Society, Jan. 9. Dr. Robert Dundas Thompson in the chair.—THE papers read were—1. "Note on the Establishment of Meteorological Stations in Switzerland," by M. Dufour, communicated by Mr. F. Galton. 2. "On Vapour Action and Vapour Pressure," by Mr. Bloxham.—The paper was founded on observations taken at Newport and Staples, and the remarks referred to that portion of the vapour only which is disseminated and consequently detected by the hygrometer. The evidence goes to show that vapour and air not only may, but do maintain, for some considerable time, separate positions as well as independent actions; and the author considers that, as the vapour carries the air with it to the site of deposition, accumulation of air will take place while the air is losing its vapour, and consequently the barometer will indicate great atmospheric pressure, not because there is little vapour, but because there is much air. The vapour which flows to the site is lost there, but the air which accompanies it is not, and shifts from one spot to another, without losing its gaseous form; and, as soon therefore as the accumulation ceases, the air will flow back again to other parts. Vapour, he thinks, mainly causes the movements of the atmosphere, while temperature mainly determines the abundance of vapour. 3. "History of the Earthquake of October 6, 1863," by Mr. E. J. Lowe, in which the details of shocks observed are given, and

the area of greatest intensity, &c., indicated on an accompanying map. 4. "On Earthquakes and Volcanoes," by Mr. C. Griffin. 5. "Remarks on the Storms of 1863," by Mr. James Glaisher, F.R.S. 6. Note by Mr. Balfour Stewart "On a Comparison of the Oxford and Kew Barographs," showing a period of nearly an hour in the transmission of atmospheric changes between those two stations.

The new Fellows elected were Mr. Charles Kierstowski, Great George Street, and Mr. Edw. H. Hudson of Moorville, Otley, Yorkshire.

Statistical Society, Jan. 19. Col. W. H. Sykes, M.P., President, in the chair. The under-named gentlemen were elected Fellows—namely, Goldwin Smith, M.A., Walter Bagebrot, M.A., John Ely, and A. W. Edgell.—PROFESSOR HIND, M.A., of Toronto, read a paper upon the "Commercial Progress and Resources of Central British North America."—The paper, after giving a sketch of the history of this highly important portion of our colonial empire, was principally devoted to a description of the very extensive and fertile tract which, lying within British territory, is known as the Lake Winnipeg and Saskatchewan districts.

Professor Hind observed that, "In estimating the agricultural capabilities of the basin of Lake Winnipeg, I bring to bear on the subject the result of personal observation from the head waters of the Winnipeg river, 104 miles west of Lake Superior, to the elbow of the south branch of the Saskatchewan (long. 108 W.)—a distance, measured along the centre of the fertile belt of land which crosses the basin of the Winnipeg from the Lake of the Woods to the foot of the Rocky Mountains, of about 750 miles. West of the forks of the Saskatchewan to the Rocky Mountains, about 300 miles, I have based my estimate upon the reports of Captain Palliser and his associates, and upon other reliable sources. A residence of many years in Canada has afforded me, I venture to believe, sufficient experience to admit of my forming a tolerably correct opinion respecting the general features of soil, its fitness for cultivation, and the amount of labour required to make its cultivation remunerative. But, when I say that there exists within the basin of Lake Winnipeg an area of cultivable land greater than that which can be found within the province of Canada, I have in view the expenditure, over a considerable area, of an equal amount of manual labour, in one form or another, to bring it into a proper state for cultivation; the labour in Canada being devoted to clearing away the forests, in the basin of Lake Winnipeg to drainage. But there are many thousand square miles in the fertile belt of Central British America fitted for the plough in their present natural condition. Those great advantages which belong to a wide extent of immediately available prairie lands of the richest description, which have led to the rapid peopling of Illinois State, belong also to the Winnipeg and Saskatchewan districts; and the climate of those districts is in no way inferior to that of the central portions of Canada, where winter wheat is successfully grown.\* The agricultural capabilities of the basin of Lake Winnipeg may be summed up as follows:—

	Acres.
On the route from Fort William, Lake Superior, to the Lake of the Woods, including the valley of Rainy River	200,000
The fertile belt stretching from the Lake of the Woods to the flanks of the Rocky Mountains, and as far north as the 54th parallel, on the Athabaska, west of McLeod's River (800 square miles)	51,200,000
Isolated areas in the prairie plateau, south of the Assiniboine	2,000,000
Isolated areas in the great plain plateau, the extension northwards of the great American desert, and in the valleys of the rivers flowing through it	1,000,000
Total area of land available for agricultural purposes	54,400,000
Approximate area suitable for grazing purposes	30,000,000
Total approximate area fitted for the abode of civilized man	84,400,000
Approximate area of the basin of Lake Winnipeg, within British territory	100,000,000
Area fitted for the abode of civilized man	84,400,000
Desert area, unsuitable for the permanent abode of man	115,280,000

Comparing this extent of surface with Canada, we arrive at the following results:—

	Acres.
Area of the province of Canada (340,000 square miles)	217,000,000
Area occupied by the sedimentary rocks (80,000 square miles)	51,200,000
Area occupied by the crystalline rocks	166,400,000
If we suppose that one-sixth of the area occupied by the crystalline rocks is capable of cultivation, as regards soil and climate (an estimate probably in excess), the total amount of land in Canada available for the purpose of settlement will be approximately	78,900,000
Showing an excess of land fitted for the permanent abode of man, in favour of the basin of Lake Winnipeg over the province of Canada, of	5,500,000

\* Winter wheat has been grown at Red River settlement with success, 1862.



6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

In Upper Canada, with a population of 1,396,091, there are 13,354,907 acres held by proprietors, of which only 6,052,619 acres are under cultivation, cropped, or in pasture. If the whole quantity of land fit for cultivation were occupied in the same proportion, the population of Canada would exceed eighteen millions. At the same ratio of inhabitants to cultivable and grazing land, the basin of Lake Winnipeg would sustain a population exceeding 19,000,000, or, leaving out of consideration the land suitable to grazing purposes, its capabilities would be adapted to support 12,000,000 people. If European countries, such as France and Great Britain, were taken as the standard of comparison, or even many of the States of the American Union, the number would be vastly greater. With reference to the climate of a large part of the Saskatchewan district, M. Bourgeau, the accomplished botanist, who accompanied Captain Palliser's expedition, says:—"In effect, the few attempts at the culture of the cereals already made in the vicinity of the Hudson's Bay Company's trading posts demonstrate by their success how easy it would be to obtain products sufficiently abundant to largely remunerate the efforts of the agriculturists. There, in order to put the land under cultivation, it would be necessary only to till the better portions of the soil. The prairies offer natural pasturage as favourable for the maintenance of numerous herds as if they had been artificially created." The writer then gave a short account of the mineral deposits of the district, directing especial attention to those of an auriferous character. "I now proceed," he observed, "to glance at the mineral wealth of this central region of British America. The little that is known of it already establishes the great fact that, within 100 miles of the entire length of Lake Winnipeg, on the west side, there are salt springs sufficient to produce as much of that important material, at a very small cost, as will be required for generations to come. Iron ores of the best description for common purposes are distributed over vast areas adjacent to workable beds of lignite coal. Some of the beds of coal are twelve feet in thickness, and have been recognised in the western part of the basin of Lake Winnipeg over several degrees of latitude and longitude. It is important to bear in mind that with the lignite coal the vast deposits of clay iron-stone are associated. These extend much further east than the lignite layers, which have been removed by denudation, and form a very peculiar and important feature in the rocks west and south of the Assiniboine, after it makes its north-westerly bend.\* A large part of the region drained by the north and south branches of the Saskatchewan is underlaid by a variety of coal or lignite. On the North Saskatchewan coal occurs below Edmonton in workable seams. A section of the river bank in that neighbourhood shows in a vertical space of 60 feet three seams of lignite; the first 1 foot thick, the second 2 feet, and the third 6 feet thick. Dr. Hector, who made the section, states that the 6-foot seam is pure and compact.† Fifteen miles below the Brazeau river, a large tributary to the North Saskatchewan from the west, the lignite-bearing strata again come into view, and from this point they were traced to the foot of the Rocky Mountains. On the Red Deer River the lignite formation was observed at various points. It forms beds of great thickness; one group of seams measured 20 feet, 'of which 12 feet consisted of pure compact coal' (Dr. Hector). These coal beds were traced for ten miles on Red Deer River. A great lignite formation of cretaceous age, containing valuable beds of coal, has a very extensive development on the upper waters of the North and South Saskatchewan, the Missouri, and far to the north in the valley of the Mackenzie. Colonel Lefroy observed this lignite on Peace River, and Dr. Hector recognised it on Smoking River, a tributary of Peace River, also on the Athabasca, McLeod River, and Pembina River, all to the north of the Saskatchewan, 'thus proving the range of this formation over a slope rising from 500 to 2300 feet above the sea, and yet preserving on the whole the same characters, and showing no evidence of recent local disturbance beyond the gentle uplift which has effected this inclination.'‡

"The Winnipeg Gold Field and the Saskatchewan Gold Field.—I now approach a subject of

\* The vast deposits of iron ore belonging to the cretaceous series of the basin of Lake Winnipeg acquire especial importance in consequence of their being associated with equally widely distributed deposits of lignite, and are found not very remote from apparently inexhaustible stores of bitumen and petroleum (on Clear Water River), which, as a fuel adapted to raising elevated temperatures in a regenerating furnace, has no equal.

† Proceedings of the Geological Society, 1861, p. 421.

‡ Ibid., p. 420.

especial interest, and I may be pardoned if I dwell upon it with some degree of minuteness, and an appearance of individual interest in the distribution and probable extent of the gold-bearing rocks of the Winnipeg basin. In 1857, on my return from the Red River Settlements, I brought with me a small nugget and some particles of gold, which were given to me by a half-breed, who stated that they had been found in the bed of Sturgeon Creek, a small tributary of the Assiniboine. I submitted these specimens of gold to the proper authorities in Canada, stating, however, at the time that I had no geological grounds for the belief that they were found, as alleged, in the vicinity of Fort Garry.

"On my return to Red River, in 1858, in charge of the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan expedition, I had the possible existence of gold-bearing rocks near Lake Winnipeg in view, and on the 28th September of the same year quartz veins penetrating Palæozoic rocks (Silurian) were discovered by me, forming islands in St. Martin's Lake, some thirty miles west of Lake Winnipeg. Struck with their importance, I made a short but ineffectual search for gold, the season being too far advanced to admit of a prolonged investigation. I named these islands St. Martin's Rocks, and gave a tolerably minute description of them in my report, which was first published in Canada in 1859, again in London in 1860, in the form of a Blue-book, and also embodied in my narrative of the Canadian expedition, published by Longmans in the same year." The recent discovery of gold in fine particles and in scales on the Assiniboine, also on its tributaries, and in fine particles on the tributaries of the Saskatchewan, further to the west, were considered to afford positive scientific proof of the existence of auriferous rocks near Lake Winnipeg, and lying in a north-westerly direction from St. Martin's Rocks. The existence of a Winnipeg gold field acquires particular importance at the present time for several reasons, prominent among which is the certainty of American progress, westward of the 100th degree of longitude, being arrested by conditions of soil and climate, and its diversion northwards towards and into the basin of Lake Winnipeg." The route from England to Fort Garry on the Saskatchewan was then discussed by Professor Hind, who remarked that it "has already been stated that, with the single exception of 200 miles of road traversed by well-appointed stage coaches, the communication from Liverpool to Fort Garry, or indeed the grand falls of the Saskatchewan, can be made by steam.

"The successive steps in this route are as follows:—

	Days.
1. Liverpool to Quebec, steamer	10
2. Quebec to La Crosse, railway	3
3. La Crosse to St. Paul, steamer	1½
4. St. Paul to Fort Abercrombie, stages	3½
5. Fort Abercrombie to Fort Garry, steamer	4
	22

"The following route is also practicable:—

1. Liverpool to Superior City by steamer.
2. Superior City to Fort Abercrombie, road.
3. Fort Abercrombie to Fort Garry, steamer.

"The present difficulty of this route is the nature of the road between Superior City and Crow Wing, which, being cut through a wooded country, is still, in the language of the country, rather 'rough' as yet.

"The next link in a route across the continent is from Fort Garry to the New Westminster, in British Columbia." After a description of the Canadian emigrant's passage across the continent to British Columbia in 1862, the author observed that he looked upon that journey "as an event in the history of Central British America of unexampled importance. It cannot fail to open the eyes of all thinking men to the singular natural features of the country which formed the scenes of this remarkable journey. Probably there is no other continuous stretch of country in the world exceeding 1600 miles in length, and wholly in a state of nature, which it would be possible for 150 people, including a woman and three children, to traverse during a single short season, and successfully, and, indeed, easily overcome such apparently formidable obstacles as the Rocky Mountains have been supposed to present. Not only is the track of the Canadian emigrants suggestive as to the nature of the country they traversed so easily, but, in comparison with the explored routes for a Pacific railway within the limits of the United States, it assumes a new importance. The present President of the Southern States, when Mr. Secretary Davis, summed up the comparisons of the different routes in the United States, as regards the cha-

racter of the country they traverse. The following is an abbreviation of the summary:—

	Miles.
Route near the 47th and 49th parallels, from St. Paul to Vancouver	1864
Number of miles through arable land	374
Number of miles through land generally uncultivable, arable soil being found in small areas	1400

"The greatest number of miles of route through arable land on any one of the lines surveyed is 670 miles, in a distance of 2290 miles. The least number of miles of route through generally uncultivable soil is 1210, on a line of 1618 miles in length, near the 32nd parallel."

This very important paper, which is invested with additional interest from the circumstance of the writer having surveyed the whole district at the instance of the Colonial Government, concluded with some general statistics of the country. The principal facts are given in the following table.

"The total population of British America at the present moment approaches four millions, and the quantity of land available for agricultural purposes is approximately 267,000 square miles—or more than twice the area of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; and equal to France (including Corsica), Belgium, Holland, and Portugal combined.

	Area in Square Miles.	Estimated Population, January 1864.
New Brunswick	—	27,620
Nova Scotia and the Island of Cape Breton	—	18,600
Newfoundland	—	36,000
Prince Edward Island	—	2,133
Total area	—	84,353
Estimated area available for agricultural purposes	52,000	—
Upper Canada	—	140,000
Lower Canada	—	200,000
Estimated area available for agricultural settlement	90,000	—
Basin of Lake Winnipeg and Valley of the River Athabasca [Exclusive of Indian population, 40,000]	—	400,000
Estimated area available for agricultural settlement	95,000	—
British Columbia and Vancouver's Island [Exclusive of Indian population, 60,000]	—	210,000
Assumed area suitable for agricultural purposes	30,000	—
Total area	—	1,034,353
Estimated area available for agricultural purposes	267,000	—

Or about nine times the area of Great Britain and Ireland. But, throwing out what may be called the inferior and desert portion of this immense territory, we find the area of the agricultural region to be approximately 267,000 square miles, or as large as France, Holland, and Denmark put together, with an aggregate population approaching four millions."

Philological Society, Jan. 15. The Rev. G. C. Geldart in the chair.—The paper read was on "English Etymologies," by Hensleigh Wedgwood, Esq.—Out of the number of derivations given by the learned writer, many of which gave rise to animated and interesting discussions, we give an abridgment of one, which was assented to without comment or addition:—*Sentinel, Sentry*.—The singularity of the word *sentinel* is that, in Italian, Spanish, and French, from whence we have taken it, the word is feminine, while the thing signified is so decisively masculine. This inappropriateness of the gender should have warned etymologists that the word must have originally signified an impersonal object, and is fatal to the explanation from *sentire*, to perceive, as if the meaning were a watcher; or from Sp. *sentar*, to place, as signifying a fixed guard, in opposition to a patrol; or from *sentina*, the bilge of a ship, on the hypothesis that the name was originally applied to a person appointed to watch the depth of water in the hold. The true meaning of the word is the short path or beat to which the movements of the sentinel are confined, from the old French *sente*, a path, the parent of the modern *sentier*, as well as of the diminutives *sentine*, *sentelle*, *senteret*, cited by Roquefort. And here we have a satisfactory explanation, not only of *sentinelle* (as a secondary diminutive of *sentine*), but also of *sentry* (from *senteret*), which never could have arisen from corruption of *sentinel*, as commonly supposed. Perhaps, from our expression of a sentinel's beat, we may suspect that his function was once familiarly known by some such phrase as *battre la sentinelle*, or *battre le senteret*, from whence the name of *sentinel* or *sentry* was compendiously applied to the functionary himself.



# THE READER.

6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

**Society of Arts, Jan. 27.** James Heywood, Esq., F.R.S., in the chair.—THE paper read was "On the Metric System and its Proposed Adoption in this Country," by Mr. Samuel Brown, F.L.S.—The author gave a sketch of the origin of the metric system.

## MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8th.**  
LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.—Finsbury Circus. "On Commercial Law." Mr. J. Young, F.S.A.  
GEOGRAPHICAL, at 8.30.—15, Whitehall Place. 1. "Mountains and Glaciers of the Canterbury Province, New Zealand." Mr. D. Haast. 2. "On the Frontier Province of Loreto in Northern Peru." Don Antonio Raimondy.  
MEDICAL, at 8.30.—32A, George Street, Hanover Square.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9th.**  
HORTICULTURAL, at 1.—South Kensington. Annual Meeting for the Election of Council, Officers, Auditors, and Expenses Committee-men for the ensuing year.  
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 8.—Albemarle Street. "On Experimental Optics." Professor Tyndall.  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, at 4.—Lincoln's Inn Fields. "Structure and Classification of the Mammalia." Professor Huxley.  
SYRO-EGYPTIAN, at 7.30.—22, Hart Street, Bloomsbury Square.  
CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—25, Great George Street, Westminster. Renewed Discussion upon Mr. Redman's Paper on "The East Coast, between the Thames and the Wash Estuaries."  
ETHNOLOGICAL, at 8.—4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square. "On the Ethnology of Australia." Mr. A. Oldfield.  
MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL, at 8.30.—53, Berners Street, Oxford Street.  
ZOOLOGICAL, at 9.—11, Hanover Square. "Notice of a New Species of *Theraps* from Eastern Africa." "On a New Species of *Prionops*." "On a New Species of *Megapode*." Mr. G. R. Gray. "On the Visceral Anatomy of the Eland." "Some Remarks on the Anatomy of the Giraffe." Dr. Edwards Crisp.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th.**  
SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi. "On Fresco-Painting as a suitable mode of Mural Decoration." Mr. J. B. Atkinson.  
GRAPHIC, at 8.—Flaxman Hall, University College.  
MICROSCOPICAL, at 8.—King's College, Strand. Anniversary.  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, at 8.30.—32, Sackville Street. "On Heath Old Hall." Mr. Wentworth. "On the Inventory of a Yorkshire Chapman." Mr. Hopper. "On the Discovery of a Roman Lead Coffin at Bishopstoke." Mr. Baigent.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11th.**  
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 8.—Albemarle Street. "On Experimental Optics." Professor Tyndall.  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, at 4.—Lincoln's Inn Fields. "Structure and Classification of the Mammalia." Professor Huxley.  
LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.—Finsbury Circus. "Sugar and Allied Substances." Professor Wanklyn.  
ANTIQUARIES, at 8.—Somerset House.  
ROYAL, at 8.30.—Burlington House. "On the Calculus of Symbols: Fourth Memoir." Mr. W. H. L. Russell. "On some further Evidence bearing on the Excavation of the Valley of the Somme by River Action, as Exhibited in a Section at Drucat, near Abbeville." Mr. J. Prestwich. "On Molecular Mechanics." Rev. J. Bayana.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12th.**  
ASTRONOMICAL, at 8.—Somerset House. Anniversary.  
COAL EXCHANGE MUSEUM, at 5.30.—"The Mode of Occurrence of Metallic Minerals in the Earth: the Ores of Iron, Tin, Copper, &c." Professor Morris.  
LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.—Finsbury Circus. "On Economic Botany." Professor Bentley.  
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 8.—Albemarle Street. "On the Synthesis of Organic Bodies." Professor Wanklyn.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13th.**  
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street. "On the Metallic Elements." Professor Frankland.  
ROYAL BOTANIC, at 3.45.—Inner Circle, Regent's Park.  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, at 4.—Lincoln's Inn Fields. "Structure and Classification of the Mammalia." Professor Huxley.

## ART.

### THE DECORATION OF ST. PAUL'S.

THE decoration of the interior of St. Paul's Cathedral is progressing slowly, but, we hope, surely. The work is in good hands: Mr. Penrose, the Cathedral surveyor, thoroughly enters into the spirit of Wren's design; and all his labours and pains are given without stint to the great object of working it out and of ultimately presenting to the nation the realization of the great architect's dream. It would be strange indeed if, in these days of church restoration, no voice should be lifted, no funds raised, in favour of the completion of a building which, with all its faults, is one of the grandest structures in Europe, and so distinctly the great architectural feature of the City that its sudden destruction would palsify the heart of London, and leave it almost a characterless heap of brick and mortar. It has, indeed, been the fashion, and a very bad fashion, to disparage the genius of Wren, and to depreciate this his most important work. Architects have fallen foul of details that it is not necessary to defend, and of faulty construction which, to a certain extent, is indefensible; but faults of contrivance and defects of detail do not and cannot destroy the great spiritual thought that is embodied in the edifice—a thought that has found, and ever finds, its echo in the hearts of millions, unskilled in schools and laws of architecture, but who, in the presence and shadow of the great building, for a moment forget their small aims and aspirations, and become half conscious of their own littleness and the vastness of the universe into which they are born.

Who that has ever stood at the entrance to Paul's Alley, and glanced upwards from that point, under the shoulder, as it were, of the building, whence he may see the dome lifted above the angle formed by the junction of the transept with the nave, has not been struck by the look of vast size in the first place, and in the second by the perfect combination of lines which unite the parts of the building, at this point, into one of the grandest compositions that can be found in Europe? Who that has gazed upon its noble proportions and the exquisite form of its dome, in the early summer morning, from the river or from Blackfriars' Bridge, has not felt the influence which a great work of art never fails to exercise upon the human mind? Who that has made his way eastwards through the crowded thoroughfare of Fleet Street has never lifted his eyes to the noble object that caps Ludgate Hill and been the better for the sight of it? Yet, for a century and a half, this building, which has been the chief architectural glory of London, has been but the shell of a bald unfinished interior; a receptacle for bad statues of the mighty dead; a reproach to the citizens and the pity of foreigners. We cannot but rejoice in the prospect of the completion of Wren's design, so long delayed, and so thoroughly worthy of the best efforts of the architect under whose direction we may at length hope to see it carried out.

A report appeared in the *Times* last week of a meeting of merchants and bankers in the City of London, who have recently formed themselves into a committee for raising a fund for the interior decoration of the Cathedral, the Lord Mayor presiding. The Committee is composed of the Lord Mayor, Alderman Rose, M.P., Mr. Goschen, M.P., Alderman Dakin, Mr. Henry Sykes Thornton, Mr. William Gladstone, Mr. Butterworth, and Mr. Francis Fuller.

The formation of such a committee is of itself almost a guarantee that want of funds, hitherto the great impediment to the carrying out of Sir Christopher Wren's intention, will no longer paralyze the efforts of those who have its formation at heart. It is true that, since 1858, when a subscription was first set on foot for the purpose in question, not more than £10,000 have been raised, exclusive of about £4000 given for special objects in the scheme of decoration, chiefly by the London Corporation and the City companies, while the cost of the work is estimated at from £60,000 to £70,000. We must recollect, however, that the public are but just beginning to learn that any serious purpose is on foot; hitherto people have waited to see what was about to be done by the Dean and Chapter, whose funds, as the Lord Mayor now tells us, are barely sufficient to keep the building in tolerable repair. The impression has undoubtedly prevailed that the decoration of the Cathedral was their proper care, and that they were provided with funds which they hesitated to use for the purpose. The Dean himself explained to the Committee, when the subject was first mooted in 1858, that there were no revenues at the disposal of the Dean and Chapter for such works as were proposed to be executed: the Cathedral endowments being on the reduced and limited scale determined by recent Acts of Parliament. It was added by the Lord Mayor, at the late meeting, that the Dean and Chapter did not even share in the increased value which their Cathedral property had acquired by the lapse of time—of that the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had the whole advantage.

The public may now, therefore, be thoroughly satisfied that it is only by extraneous aid—i. e., public subscriptions—that funds for the proposed works can be provided. The sum required is, after all, but a small one, and the purpose for which it is required is surely a national one. An excellent suggestion was contained in a letter addressed to the Lord Mayor by Mr. Francis Fuller, and read at the meeting. In this letter Mr. Fuller said that, "if 400 gentlemen could be found to charge themselves with the responsibility of collecting £100 each, the sum of £40,000 could be, in his opinion, easily raised within the next two years, and that he should be willing to be one of the 400; or, if preferred, he should be willing to be one of 40 who should in that case charge themselves with the responsibility of collecting £1000 each within the same time." Mr. Fuller is on the committee; and, whatever may be thought of his suggestion, it may at least be received as evidence of the spirit and goodwill by which we believe all its members are animated. We believe the suggestion is a good one, but would prefer to see the numbers extended. A hundred persons might collect £10 where ten could collect £100, and but one £1000. The subscription would benefit by assuming a

more national character; and an interest in the work itself would consequently be awakened in a larger circle of intelligent minds.

Another cause for the apparent apathy with which the proposal has been met is, fortunately, capable of removal. The general public has certainly but very little idea of what is intended to be done with the interior of their Cathedral; and, before subscriptions are asked for in good earnest, we trust that the large model of the choir, upon which Mr. Penrose is now at work, will be completed and submitted for public inspection. We believe that this is the surveyor's intention, and that, in addition to this, photographs of the drawings and ornamental designs intended for use, as well as of Schnorr's cartoons for the stained glass windows, will also be exhibited. The public will thus have a fair opportunity of judging, as far as possible, of the effect of the work for which their subscriptions will be asked. One thing we may perhaps safely predicate: that, whatever exceptions may be taken to particular parts, or to the employment of particular artists, a certain unity of design and general accord with Wren's purpose may be expected to prevail throughout: the whole work being directed by Mr. Penrose himself, who brings to the aid of his highly-cultivated faculties an enthusiastic admiration of Wren's genius, and a most patient devotion to the task before him.

The interior of St. Paul's is vastly inferior in effect to the exterior; and, even when its decorations shall have been completed, it will be ineffective as compared with the interior of St. Peter's at Rome, in emulation of which it was built. The proposed decoration of the interior of St. Paul's may be described generally as a modified imitation of that of St. Peter's. The modifications are necessarily, however, very great. It would occupy too much space to enter upon the cardinal differences in the construction of the two churches; but it must be remembered that, in the treatment of St. Paul's, the present architect is bound by the necessities of its construction, and cannot be held responsible for any want of effect that may be fairly traced to defects over which he has no control. But, while it must be admitted that the construction of the Roman interior is simpler and nobler than that of St. Paul's, on the other hand it must be conceded that there is very much that is questionable in the taste of its decoration. We may hope to avoid bad taste in our work, as well as to improve in other respects upon the Roman church, whose exterior stands surpassed by that of St. Paul's.

The proposal for completing and adorning the Cathedral is at present limited to the choir. Six of the windows will be filled with stained glass, executed either at Munich or at Glasgow, from the designs of Schnorr, in illustration of the 12th verse of the Litany: the Agony, the Cross, Death, the Grave, the Resurrection, and Pentecost. It has been determined to employ mosaic as being the most suitable material for the decoration of the wall spaces usually appropriated to frescoes; and the three compartments over the windows in the apse net will contain mosaic pictures of our Lord, Moses, and Elijah, executed from the Baron de Triqueti's designs, which were approved last year by the General Committee, under whose direction the works in progress are carried on. The decoration of the choir has been given up to M. de Triqueti, who has also made designs for the intaglios below the east windows. To the preference given to this artist's designs we will not at present advert, except to remark that the reasons assigned for preferring them to those of Messrs. Watts and Leighton were, that, though inferior in artistic merit and more feeble in character, they were eminently fitted for execution in the intended material. Coloured marbles will be introduced in the panels, and the intermediate spaces filled by mosaics. Generally, the effect will be a glorious combination of coloured marbles, mosaic, and gilding, yet without confusion, because subject to a carefully-matured design; the decoration of the vaulted roof is Mr. Penrose's own work; and the effect of it, as seen in the model, is extremely beautiful.

When the model is submitted for public inspection we may consider more specially the particular designs which have hitherto been made with a view to this great national work. In the meantime we may be permitted to say that a very noble design for one of the spandrels of the dome has been executed by Mr. Alfred Stevens, a painter who was invited to compete last year for the decoration of the apse, but who was then understood to have declined the invitation, on what ground we do not know. We cannot but



# THE READER.

6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

the more regret this, when we compare his design with those chosen for the apse, combining, as it does, the highest artistic faculty with a perfect appreciation of the requirements necessary to be maintained for its proper translation into an unyielding material like mosaic. We may hope, however, that the spandrels of the dome will be given up to this very able artist.

THE *Art-Journal* for this month surpasses itself. The beautiful engraving, by H. Bourne, of Mr. H. O'Neil's picture of "Purity," in the Ribbleton Hall collection, is sure to be fully appreciated. It is worth, of itself, more than twice the sum paid for the number. No less so is Mr. W. Miller's plate of Turner's celebrated "Battle of Trafalgar," which graces the Hall of Greenwich Hospital. In the third large engraving, "The Reading Girl," from Mr. P. Magni's celebrated statue, exhibited in the International Exhibition of 1862, Mr. W. Roffe has been most successful in reproducing by the graver the effect of the marble, which made this piece of sculpture one of the chief attractions of the Exhibition. Two of Gustave Doré's illustrations of Dante's "Inferno" are given with this number, and selected cuts from other illustrated works now in course of publication. At half-a-crown the *Art-Journal* for February is indeed a marvel.

## MUSIC.

### THE MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS.

THE two concerts which have been given since Christmas, the 140th and the 141st of the series, have been so delightful that one is tempted to complain that the vacation was allowed to be for so long. The quiet winter nights are the best time for enjoying the fare provided for us on these very popular Mondays, and the consciousness of being able to go to a pantomime is a sorry consolation for the suspension of the weekly banquet. M. Vieuxtemps' re-appearance has been welcomed with a warmth which shows how thoroughly his consummate ability as a master of his instrument is appreciated by the public. It is a happy incident to the enjoyment of really good art that, as a rule, use and familiarity make one feel less and less the effect of whatever blemishes there may be to detract from its perfection, at the same time that the impression left by its excellences becomes deeper and deeper. An imperfection once recognised, a well-regulated mind will cease to notice it, or, if it is not peculiarly irritating, will acquiesce in it; but beauty is a thing not so easily taken in, and in its repeated enjoyment the flaws first noticed are forgotten. Somehow thus it is with M. Vieuxtemps' playing. He has what the astronomer calls an appreciably "personal equation," a manner which does not fit in all respects the leader of a quartett; but, in listening to him time after time, one forgets the existence of the drawbacks alluded to in the real enjoyment given by his masterly handling of the instrument. The earlier concerts of the season had shown that an accomplished virtuoso might still be deficient in the absolute steadiness required in a leader—a quality which, except in the rarest instances, nothing, probably, but experience can give. The veteran hand of M. Vieuxtemps has quite restored the steadiness of the quartett; his unflinching leadership infuses an absolute sense of security into the play of the whole party; connoisseurs of "bowing" watch his right hand with admiration, and the effect is equally felt by the many who are ignorant of the mechanics of the fiddle. The early quartett of Mendelssohn in A minor, with Mozart's "Strinascachi" duet for piano and violin, were the chief concerted pieces of last week's concert. The exquisite little *intermezzo* of the first was of course encored, and the leader's playing in the bit of *adagio* which makes such an almost pathetic close to the last movement made a deep impression. Mr. Santley sang, the same evening, an interesting song by Gounod, "Le Juif Errant," imitated into English by Mr. Chorley as "The Pilgrim." It is a grave and solemn piece, better fitted, perhaps, for a quiet room than a concert audience. Madame Parepa gave another bit of Gounod, which is being rapidly sung into popularity—the serenade with the pretty burden "Chantez toujours." But this concert, enjoyable as it was, was fairly eclipsed by that of last Monday evening, which was consecrated to the music of Mozart. A "Mozart night" at the Monday Popular Concerts means an evening spent in hearing the loveliest music that the ears of mankind have yet listened to. Strains more exquisite than those of the clarinet quintett

one really cannot expect to hear, unless it be in some other world. It is all a stream of melody—melody the most gracious and divine—and it would scarcely be possible to have it played more satisfactorily than it was by Mr. Lazarus and his accompanying brethren of the bow. The slow movement was received, as usual, with an irresistible encore, the audience seeming to have become already intoxicated with Mozart after only those few minutes of his music. It was a trial, even to a Mozartian programme, to head it with this crowning work of genius, but what came after was none the less delightful. Madame Goddard played a sonata on the piano (key, B flat), and a duet with M. Vieuxtemps. No music suits her playing better than Mozart's. The perfect feeling of repose she threw into the slow movement of the solo made that part of it the most impressive, but the concluding *allegro* was enchanting, too, with its simple gaiety. The other instrumental piece was the pianoforte quartett in G minor, a magnificent work, full of fire, and, like all the rest, ringing with melody. The slow movement of this is in places almost symphonic in its fulness of treatment, and it winds up with the most ethereal of *rondos*. Last season we recollect it made a similar sensation. The vocal music was also by Mozart, and consisted of "Batti, Batti!" the pretty soprano song called "The Violet," "Non piu andrai," and the serenade from "Don Juan." Mr. Santley was forced, by the tumultuous dictation of the audience, to repeat his two bass songs. Miss Lancia, the soprano, was apparently touched with nervousness, and scarcely did justice to her pleasant voice. "The Violet," however, was encored, and, if encores are to be considered tolerable, deserved the compliment. All this music was thoroughly enjoyed by the thronging audience, whom the magic of Mozart's name had gathered together. One may occasionally see greater excitement produced by the work of other composers, but there is no music like his for keeping a multitude a whole evening in a state of contented enjoyment. "If in his second state sublime" he knows anything of the preciousness of the heritage he has left us, let us hope it is some consolation for the small tyrannies of that odious Archbishop of Bamberg, and the other griefs his short life was troubled with.

R. B. L.

## MUSICAL NOTES.

THE Sacred Harmonic Society's performance of the "Lobgesang" and the "Stabat Mater" drew an immense audience yesterday week, and is to be repeated with the same singers, including Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Madame Laura Baxter, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Santley, on Monday evening next.

THE National Choral Society celebrated the 55th anniversary of Mendelssohn's birth by a performance of "Elijah" on Wednesday evening. The choir does not yet know "Elijah" as well as it does certain oratorios of Handel; so the tone of the soprano, who are always, by some unexplained law of nature, the section of a choir who sing most by memory and least by their reason, is not so ringing and brilliant as it has sounded in the more familiar pieces. The choir, however, sings certain choruses better than they have been sung in London before. Among these are the three consecutive masterpieces of the second part—"Be not afraid," "He, watching over Israel," and "He that shall endure to the end." In the first part of the far more difficult chorus of the cave scene they succeed no better than most other bodies of singers have done, but in the closing portion, on the words "Onward came the Lord," the voices sound most refreshingly bright and clear. Altogether, Mr. Martin's management of the choir shows that he knows how, by judicious apportionment of the several masses of voice-power, to minimize the necessary evils incident to all monster choirs. If he could find some convenient means of extracting the better half of his whole force, he might have a body of singers which would be infinitely the best *orchestral* choir in England. At the performance on Wednesday, in which Madame Rudersdorff, Miss Annie Cox, Miss E. Heywood, Mr. Reeves, and Mr. Santley were the singers, the solo in the "Sanctus" Quartett was allotted to Miss Cox instead of, as would have been the obvious course, to Madame Rudersdorff. This was a grave mistake, the leading part being one only fit for the most "robust" of sopranos. The weakening of the quartett was well nigh causing a general break down in the *ensemble*.

THE balance-sheet of the Musical Society shows an expenditure during the past year of £1789.

The four concerts cost £943, the two "Trials" £203, and the *Conversazione* £128. The paying members included 142 Fellows, 530 Associates, 566 lady-Associates—in all, 1238 members.

MESSRS. CRAMER & Co. have published the score of the Symphony by Mynheer Silas which was so well received at a concert of the Musical Society last season. *The Orchestra* for the current week contains an analysis of the work.

MR. MACFARREN'S new opera, "She Stoops to Conquer," is understood to be very nearly ready for production at Covent Garden. The "Jessy Lea" of the same composer is making an apparently successful tour in the provinces, Miss Wynne and the rest of the London cast still acting in it.

ANOTHER name is added to the already long list of London musical associations. The "New Philharmonic Society" is described as an "Association of Professional and Amateur Musicians for the Cultivation of the Musical Art, by means of Private Music meetings for the practice of Vocal and Instrumental Works." It is under the presidency of Herr Molique, and among its twelve directors are Herr Jansa, Mr. F. Lablache, and Dr. Wylde.

ROSSINI is about to celebrate his eighteenth birthday. Born on February 29th, 1782, he will complete his 82nd year within three weeks' time. Many are the preparations for a worthy celebration of this occasion all over Europe, especially in Paris, his present place of residence, and Pesaro, his birthplace. A colossal bust by Marchetti has already been unveiled at the latter place.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Musical World*, writing from Italy, describes in enthusiastic terms the merits of Signor Bignardi, a tenor lately singing at Bologna, whom he represents to have a combination of great qualities, "such that we look in vain for a parallel save in the recollection of the matchless Rubini."

MARIO and Adelina Patti have appeared in the "Barbieri" at the Italian opera at Paris, and have been received with the usual enthusiasm. Mdlle. Patti, whose power over her Parisian adorers does not appear to have the least abated, will presently try for the first time there the character of *Marta*.

A FRENCH paper mentions a M. Bollaert, a soprano, as singing at a concert in Paris. "His strange voice," it is added, "rather astonished than pleased the audience."

*The Musical Monthly, a Repertoire of Literature, the Drama, and the Arts*, is the title of one of the new periodicals of the year. It is a well-got up folio-sized paper, containing, in addition to sixteen pages of print, a piece or two of original music. The contributions to the February number are a mazurka for the piano, and a simply-written hunting-song, in four parts, for mixed voices.

THE managers of the Handel Festival Choir seem to have in contemplation a Shakespeare performance. The programme of last night's rehearsal at Exeter Hall included five well-known settings of Shakespearian words: Stevens's "Blow, blow," and "Spotted snakes," Lord Mornington's "As it fell upon a day," Macfarren's "Orpheus with his lute," and Purcell's "Sea nymphs hourly ring his knell." The rehearsal began with Mendelssohn's CXIVth Psalm, and finished with his "Departure."

THE Law of Contract was lately applied, in the Westminster County Court, to the settlement of a case which may interest the prudent paterfamilias re the enforcement of "dress" in places of public entertainment. Mr. Rickwead sued Mr. Austen under the following circumstances:—He had taken his family to St. James's Hall, on the 28th December, and paid for four tickets to certain stalls, price three shillings each. His wife desired to carry her hat into the room; defendant said it was to be left in the cloak-room, and showed a board bearing a rule to that effect. Defendant insisting upon this, plaintiff asked to have his money returned. This was refused; he brought his action, and obtained a verdict for the amount—twelve shillings. He claimed cab fare also, but this was not allowed.

## MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

FEBRUARY 8th to 15th.

MONDAY.—Popular Concert (Mendelssohn Night), St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

"Lobgesang" and "Stabat Mater" (Sacred Harmonic Society), Exeter Hall, 7½ p.m.

SATURDAY.—Crystal Palace Orchestral Concert (Parts of Gounod's "La Reine de Saba," &c.), 3 p.m.

OPERAS:—

COVENT GARDEN (English).—"Fanchette," with Pantomime.

H.R. MAJESTY'S.—To-night, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, "Faust" (in English).



6 FEBRUARY, 1864.

## THE DRAMA.

## "THE SILVER LINING," "UNLIMITED CONFIDENCE," &amp;c.

THE new comedy of "The Silver Lining," by Mr. Leicester Buckingham, successfully produced at the St. James's on Saturday evening last, is a version in three acts of a five-act piece by Théodore Barrière and Henry de Kock, brought out at the Théâtre du Vaudeville on the 1st of April, 1854, under the title of "La Vie en Rose." The French piece was remarkable for the inappropriateness of the title given to it, presenting, as it did, in the main features of its plot, a strongly painted picture of *la vie en noire*, rather than any rose-tinted view of life. The reason of this, we believe, is that, between the first presentation of the outline of their piece by the authors and their delivery of the completed work, an entire change in the development of their design was effected, while their title was retained unaltered. Their original intention was to make *Richard*, the light-hearted believer in all things good, their hero, *Maurice de Prestes*, the cynic and sceptic, being intended as the foil or contrast of the character. Though strongly cast, with M. Fechter, Felix, Madame Doche, and Madame Fargueil supporting the principal characters, the piece did not achieve a great success. We are much mistaken if the applause bestowed upon the English adaptation on the first night of its representation does not initiate a long run for it at the St. James's. Without going so far as to say that Mr. Leicester Buckingham has overcome all the difficulties of the task undertaken by him in the adaptation of a thoroughly French story, we may fairly compliment him on the work he has produced, which, for spirited writing and unexaggerated portraiture of character, is very decidedly above the line of recent compositions of a like class. It is a great advance upon his "Silken Fetters." The want in his piece—as in the French original, though in a less degree—is a motive sufficiently obvious and strong for the cynicism and rude mistrust of everything and everybody evinced by his hero. Mr. Leicester Buckingham has shrunk from the hazard of reproducing this character as developed by MM. Barrière and Henry de Kock; and he pays the penalty in the diminution of the interest which he secures for a character whose motives are only in part exhibited. Under no circumstances, however, could *Arthur Merivale* (the *Maurice* of the original piece), the insolent and egotistical unbeliever, with his brutal proclivities, be made deeply interesting to an English audience; with them such a character is calculated to provoke merely scorn and indignation; and, on this account, we are disposed to bear gently on the shortcomings of the actor who represents it in Mr. Leicester Buckingham's version.

In the opening scene of "The Silver Lining," *Helen Maltravers* (Mrs. Charles Mathews) is introduced as a young, warm-hearted, trusting girl, deeply in love with *Arthur Merivale*, to whom she is engaged to be married. Her mother, *Mrs. Maltravers* (Mrs. Frank Matthews), has grave, though undefined doubts of *Arthur's* character, and consequently of his ability to secure her daughter's happiness. The sceptical utterances of *Arthur* himself, who is introduced upon the scene, increase her uneasiness in a painful degree, and she is almost prepared to make an effort to break off the match, when the exhibition of real emotion on *Arthur's* part disarms her, and the first act concludes by her joining the hands of the engaged pair. Between the first and second acts about eighteen months have elapsed. *Arthur* has married *Helen Maltravers* and has become more cynical than ever; and, in the interval, the influence of his character has darkly overshadowed that of his young wife. On the admission of a friend, a certain *Major Eversley*, a stranger to *Helen*, that had fallen in love with her before her marriage, and had retained, as a *souvenir* of his hopeless passion, a flower which had fallen from her bouquet, *Arthur* suffers himself to be filled with jealousy, and addresses such heartless and insulting remarks to his innocent wife that she refuses to accompany him to Paris, whither he is about to depart under some appointment in the embassy. He is reaping the whirlwind of his stormy sowing. In the meantime, through the interference of a *Mrs. Dorrington*, a somewhat eccentric but frank and large-hearted widow, played by Mrs. Stirling, some insight into the past life of *Arthur* and the nominal cause of his cynicism is gained. This lady has, in the course of certain visits of charity, recently sat at the bedside of a dying woman and received from her, in trust, a packet of letters addressed to

her in *Arthur's* handwriting. It then appears that he had loved this woman, who had, however, suffered herself to be seduced by a friend in whom he had trusted; and it is this great wrong—as he is pleased to consider it—which is the source of the perversion of his character. In the third act, *Helen*, all her youthful hopes and beliefs darkened or overthrown, is discovered given up to a life of feverish excitement. *Arthur* has been away at Paris several months, and she has not even cared to answer any of his letters. In this interval a change for the better has taken place in his views of life, and he returns softened and repentant, but only to find that the dark lesson which he had forced upon his wife had been learnt by heart: she loves no one, believes in nothing—in nothing but the efficacy of a draught of poison, to save her from the horror of being compelled to return to her husband's home. Hopeless of recovering her from the perverted state of mind in which he finds her, he is bowed with remorse, and can think of but one expedient for re-awakening the feeling which appears to be either benumbed or dead within her: he tells her that their child has suddenly died. The attempt is successful. *Helen's* maternal affection is powerfully aroused, and under its softening influence the husband and wife are reconciled.

Around the central group revolve a number of characters—and more especially one—who illustrate the brighter side of life. *Frank Fairleigh* (Mr. Charles Mathews), a young artist, in love with *Dora Merivale*, *Arthur's* sister, is the very personification of genial good-heartedness. He meets misfortune with a gallant determination to make the best of the worst mishaps, and holds *Arthur's* cynicism in profound abhorrence. He is sorely tried, however, by *Arthur*, who believes that he is a mere fortune-hunter, and, for a moment, even persuades *Dora* to take the same view of her lover. Shocked and disgusted by the treatment he has received, he determines to turn cynic himself and revenge his own discomforts on everybody about him. His attempt ends in complete failure; but the picture of the good-hearted fellow trying to be bad, and affecting to consider it a lost day on which he has not succeeded in getting rid of some one of his old virtues is in the very highest vein of comedy, and presented by Mr. Charles Mathews with exquisite effect. Another prominent character is *Mrs. Dorrington* (Mrs. Stirling), a lively widow, who, throughout the piece, plays the part of a sort of good genius, endeavouring to secure the solid happiness of all, and fighting earnestly against the unfounded misanthropy of *Arthur*. Nothing could possibly be more natural, polished, and charming than the acting of Mrs. Stirling in this character. The anticipations of fine acting in which we ventured to indulge, in noticing Mrs. Charles Mathews's performance in "Silken Fetters," have been thoroughly realized in the present instance. As *Helen Maltravers*, she has decidedly taken her place as the most powerful actress of the tragedy of real life on the English stage. Every phase of the character,—the girlish blind faith in the man of her choice, the agony of the outraged wife, the delirious recklessness of the woman seeking forgetfulness at any cost,—all was marked with a power that left absolutely nothing to be desired. It is hardly too much to say that Mr. Charles Mathews never appeared in any character that more thoroughly suited him, and certainly we never remember to have seen him exhibit so much emotional power as in the love scenes with *Dora*. From first to last, indeed, his assumption of the character is perfect. Mr. Frederick Robinson played the ungrateful part of *Arthur* with care, and, in the third act, with true pathos. The *Dora* of Miss Cottrell was a graceful performance, and the *Mrs. Maltravers* of Mrs. Frank Matthews was played with real feeling. It is rarely that pieces are so strongly cast as "The Silver Lining," and, had the comedy itself been less good, the circumstance of so many first-rate actors being brought together on the scene would have made the occasion of its production remarkable; as it is—strongly cast and admirably played—we have no doubt whatever that it will hold its place in the St. James's bill until Easter, when Mr. Charles Mathews is due at the Théâtre des Variétés.

A very cheerful little comedietta, entitled "Unlimited Confidence," was, after various delays, brought out on Monday evening at the Strand with perfect success. It is very slight in form, and is not distinguished by either strongly-drawn character or very pointed dialogue; but it is, nevertheless, made highly diverting by the bustle of the action and the numerous surprising

turns given to the plot, in which a young lady, *Florence Beeworth* (Miss Marie Wilton), engaged to a young naval lieutenant, played by Mr. Parselle, is made to personate an aunt of hers, the mother of a little boy, and separated from her husband under peculiar circumstances. *Florence* obtains from her lover a promise that, whatever he may see or hear, he will neither doubt nor mistrust her; but the compact is no sooner made than the young sailor is astounded by being informed that she is a widow, and, moreover, the mother of the little boy before mentioned. The arrival of *Colonel Dacres* (Mr. Belford), his uncle, makes matters worse, for the colonel insists that his nephew is a greenhorn in the hands of a cunning adventurer. In the end, however, all comes right: *Colonel Dacres* finds in the aunt the wife from whom he had been accidentally separated in America during the War of Independence, and his nephew finds *Florence* all he could wish her to be. The four actors concerned in the performance of this little drama all played with spirit and refinement, Miss Marie Wilton appearing to great advantage. Her almost tearful sympathy with the suffering she is obliged to cause her lover was charmingly real and touched the audience deeply, making many regret, possibly, that she is not oftener seen out of the domain of burlesque.

MR. JOHN BROUGHAM'S new romantic drama, entitled "The Might of Right; or, the Soul of Honour," was brought out with perfect success at Astley's on Saturday evening last. We shall give a detailed notice of this piece next week.

"DONNA DIANA" at the Princess's is to be followed, on Monday week, by a new and original comedy by Mr. Watts Phillips, in which Miss Kate Saville will perform.

MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED'S NEW ENTERTAINMENT.—These popular "entertainers," with their coadjutor, Mr. John Parry, commenced a new season at the Gallery of Illustration on Monday evening with a new entertainment written for them by Mr. Shirley Brooks, and entitled "The Pyramid; or, Footprints in the Sand," with scenic illustrations by Mr. William Telbin. Very different from any of their former "Entertainments," the "Pyramid" does not strike us as being quite the best. In parts it is extremely mirth-provoking; but there is an absence of construction in the arrangement of the action which mars its effect as a whole. No doubt the performers themselves, as they become more at home in their parts, will be able to mitigate this in some degree. In the meantime there is enough in the "Pyramid" to ensure its favourable reception. Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, and their friend Mr. John Parry, are taking a holiday, and are introduced to the audience in the house of Signor Quarantino at Alexandria. A dispute between Mr. and Mrs. Reed as to the relative merits of mushrooms and truffles determines Mr. Reed to rush alone into the desert, and he acts upon his determination—but is followed by Mrs. Reed and Mr. John Parry. The scene changes to an exquisite view of the desert, with the great sphinx and the pyramids, painted in Mr. Telbin's best manner, and producing a surprisingly illusive effect of vast size and distance. On one side a splendid tent is fixed, the property of the *Hon. Dangleton Spangledore*, a swell Eastern traveller, who never stirs except in company with a grand pianoforte and a thorough-bred bull-dog. In the shade of this gentleman's tent the party appear under all sorts of disguises, and assume a number of characters, all capitally sustained, and all more or less diverting. Readers of "Eöthen" will especially enjoy the scene between the *Pasha Suleiman Ataghan* (Mr. German Reed), *Mr. Barnabas Boanerges Bradshaw, M.P.* (Mr. John Parry), and *Achilles Rododaculos* (Mrs. German Reed), a Greek polyglot interpreter; the murderous sentiments of the *Pasha* on the one hand, and the contemptuous remarks of the English M.P. on the other, being most laughably neutralized by the wily Greek in the course of translation. Loud applause greeted the whole performance, and we have no doubt that its success will, in the course of a little time, be thoroughly assured.

We learn that a joint-stock company has been formed in Paris for the purpose of improving the pecuniary state of the Châtelet, Gaité, and Porte St. Martin, by producing in each as many successful pieces as possible; which would seem a very praiseworthy undertaking. The Châtelet will henceforth be devoted exclusively to "Féeries," the Gaité to melodrama, and Porte St. Martin to the historical drama.



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